



BABYLON RISING
PART 3 OF 4

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ATTACK **FROM ABOVE!**



Tracy Yardley
4/20/08



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BABYLON RISING

PART 3: RETRIBUTION

WELCOME TO THE PLANET MOBIUS--
A WORLD BEYOND WHAT YOU KNOW
FROM THE SEGA GAMES! THE BABYLON
ROGUES HAVE JUST REJOINED THE
AERIAL ARMY THEY HAD ONCE
ABANDONED; THE BATTLE BIRD
ARMADA. NOW THESE FLYING FIENDS
ARE ON A DIRECT COURSE FOR THE
HOMETOWN OF SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
AND THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS IN
THEIR QUEST FOR THE LEGENDARY
BABYLON GARDEN!!

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**NICOLE
ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE,
IN CHARGE OF
CITY DEFENSES**

NICOLE?
NICOLE!

LOOKS LIKE THE ARMADA MEANS BUSINESS. MAYBE I SHOULD'VE BEEN NICER TO THEM.*

THE SHIELD SHOULD HOLD THOSE SHIPS AT BAY, BUT WE NEED SOME AERIAL STRENGTH.

WE NEED YOU TO FINISH THE REPAIRS TO THE TORNADO, NICOLE.

ROTOR
FORMER
FREEDOM
FIGHTER

*SEE SU #17-20

TAILS
TWO-TAILED
BOY GENIUS



IT'S DONE. PLEASE, ROTOR... THE WHOLE CITY IS SCREAMING TO TAKE ME OFFLINE... SALLY IS GONE.* I CAN'T... I CAN'T...

*SEE
STH
#230-
231.

I KNOW, NICOLE. IT'S ALRIGHT. THERE'S ONLY ONE MORE THING I NEED YOU TO DO.

THE BATTLE
FORTRESS...

DR. FUKUROKOV,
SIT REP, IF YOU
PLEASE.



YES, MY LORD. SINCE OUR LAST ENCOUNTER WITH THE MISERABLE MEDDLER, MILES PROWER, WE HAVE GATHERED MUCH USEFUL INTELLIGENCE!

BATTLE LORD MASTER AND COMMANDER

DR. FUKUROKOV SCIENTIST AND TACTICIAN

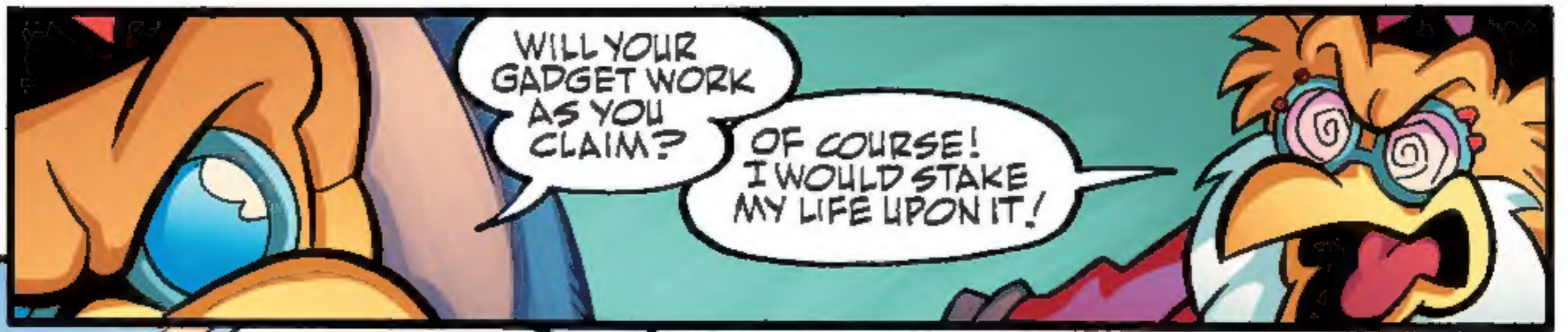


OUR EYES IN THE SKY REPORT THE CITY IS CONSTRUCTED ENTIRELY OF MICROSCOPIC MACHINES, OR "NANITES," WHICH ARE RUN BY AN OPERATING SYSTEM CALLED "NICOLE!"

THEIR SECURITY MEASURES SEEM LIMITED, BUT EFFECTIVE. MOST PROMINENT IS THE FORCE FIELD SHIELD ENCLOSING THE CITY AS WE APPROACH.

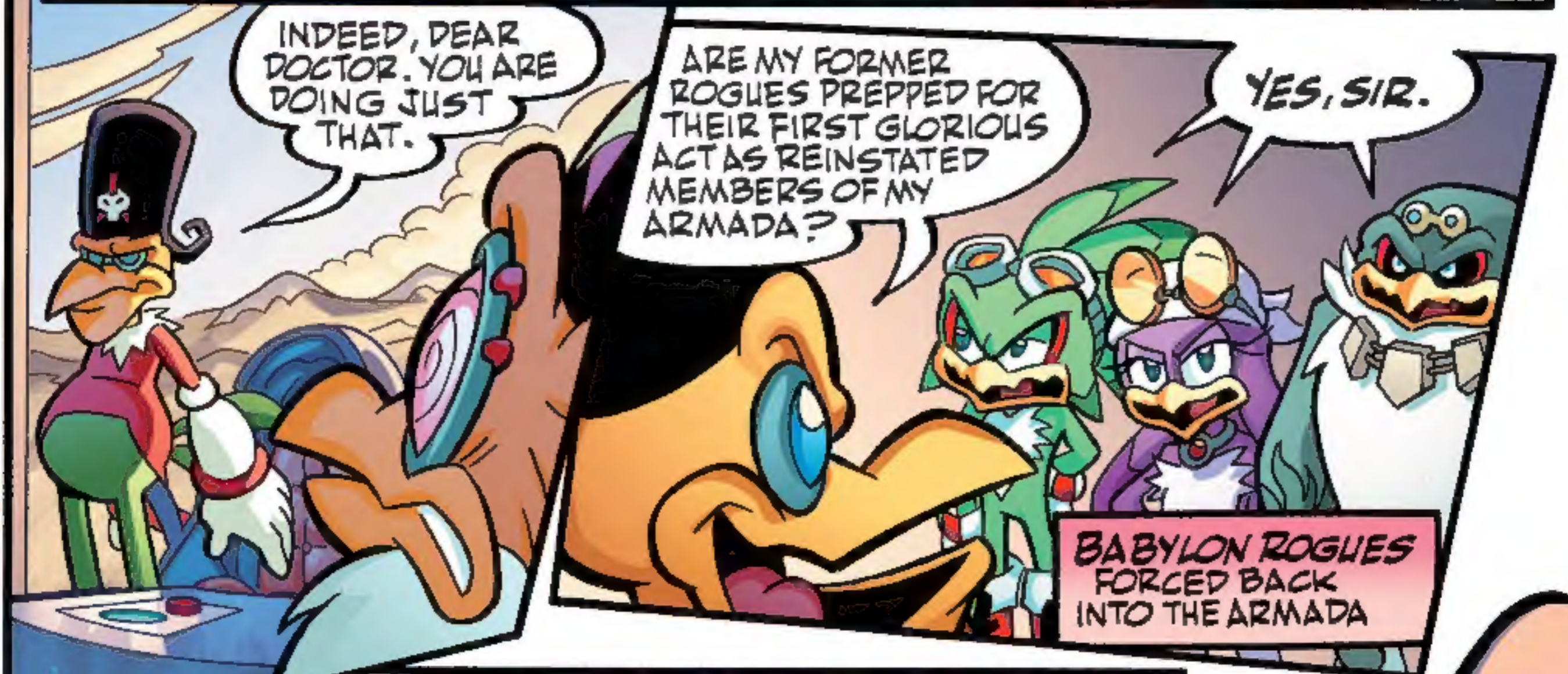


ENOUGH REVIEW, DOCTOR. WHAT I WISH TO KNOW IS...



WILL YOUR GADGET WORK AS YOU CLAIM?

OF COURSE! I WOULD STAKE MY LIFE UPON IT!



INDEED, DEAR DOCTOR. YOU ARE DOING JUST THAT.

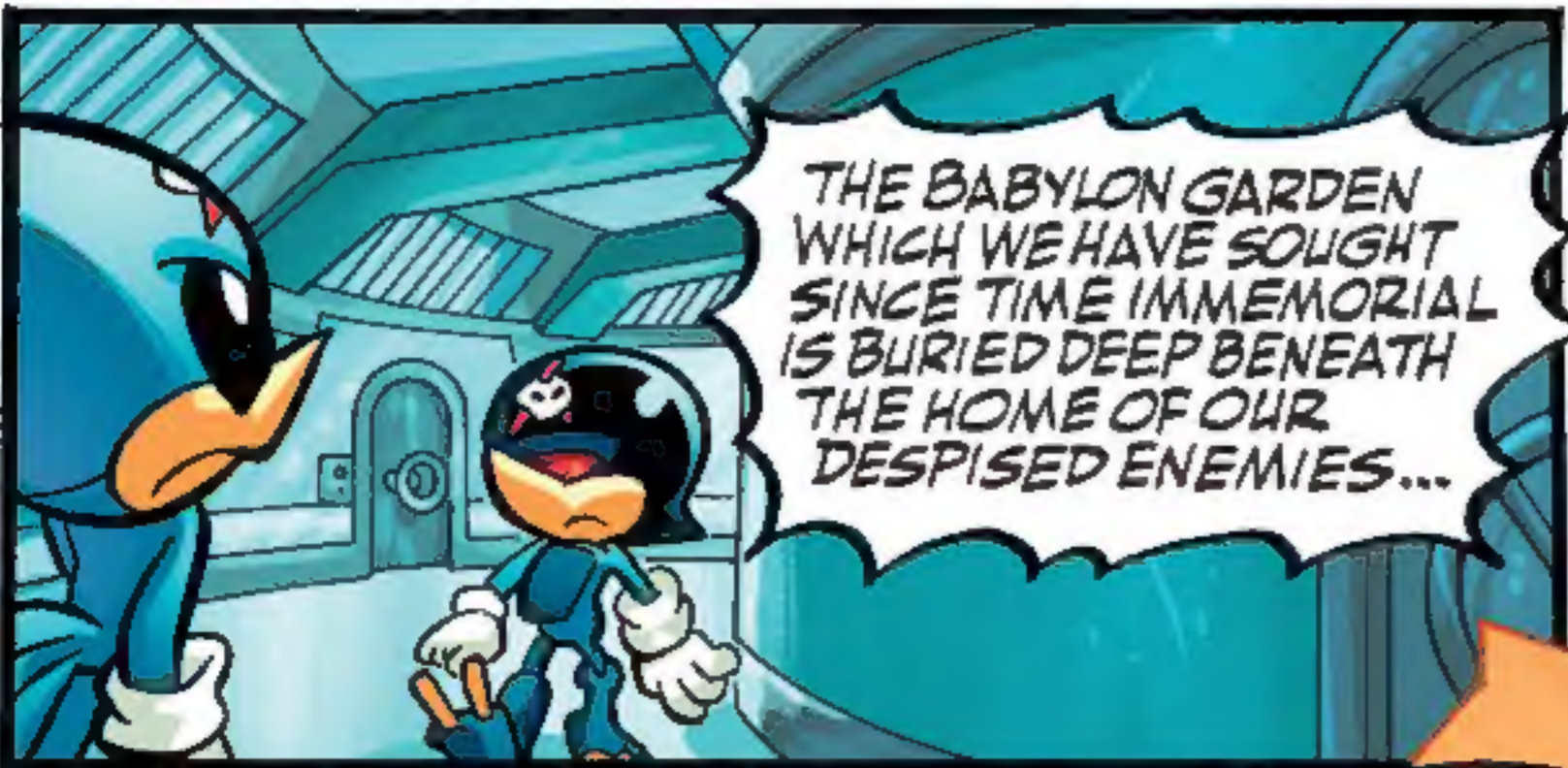
ARE MY FORMER ROGUES PREPPED FOR THEIR FIRST GLORIOUS ACT AS REINSTATED MEMBERS OF MY ARMADA?

YES, SIR.

BABYLON ROGUES FORCED BACK INTO THE ARMADA



EXCELLENT! HEAR ME, MY TROOPS! BY CHANCE OF FATE...



THE BABYLON GARDEN WHICH WE HAVE SOUGHT SINCE TIME IMMEMORIAL IS BURIED DEEP BENEATH THE HOME OF OUR DESPISED ENEMIES...



IN ONE FELL SWOOP WE SHALL DEAL OUT VENGEANCE AND TAKE HOLD OF OUR DESTINY!

LET THE OPERATION
COO-COO-COMMENCE!





I HATE TO SAY IT, BUT THE THEORIES BEHIND DR. KUNG FUROKOV'S GADGET HERE MIGHT ACTUALLY WORK.

CHIRP

ONE WAY TO FIND OUT!



THEY'VE BROKEN THROUGH THE SHIELD.



EVERYONE! GET TO YOUR DESIGNATED EVACUATION POINTS!



CAN HE STILL GIVE ORDERS? I THOUGHT IXIS NAUGUS WAS THE NEW KING.

I DON'T THINK THE COUNCIL APPROVED ANY NEW EVACUATION PLANS!

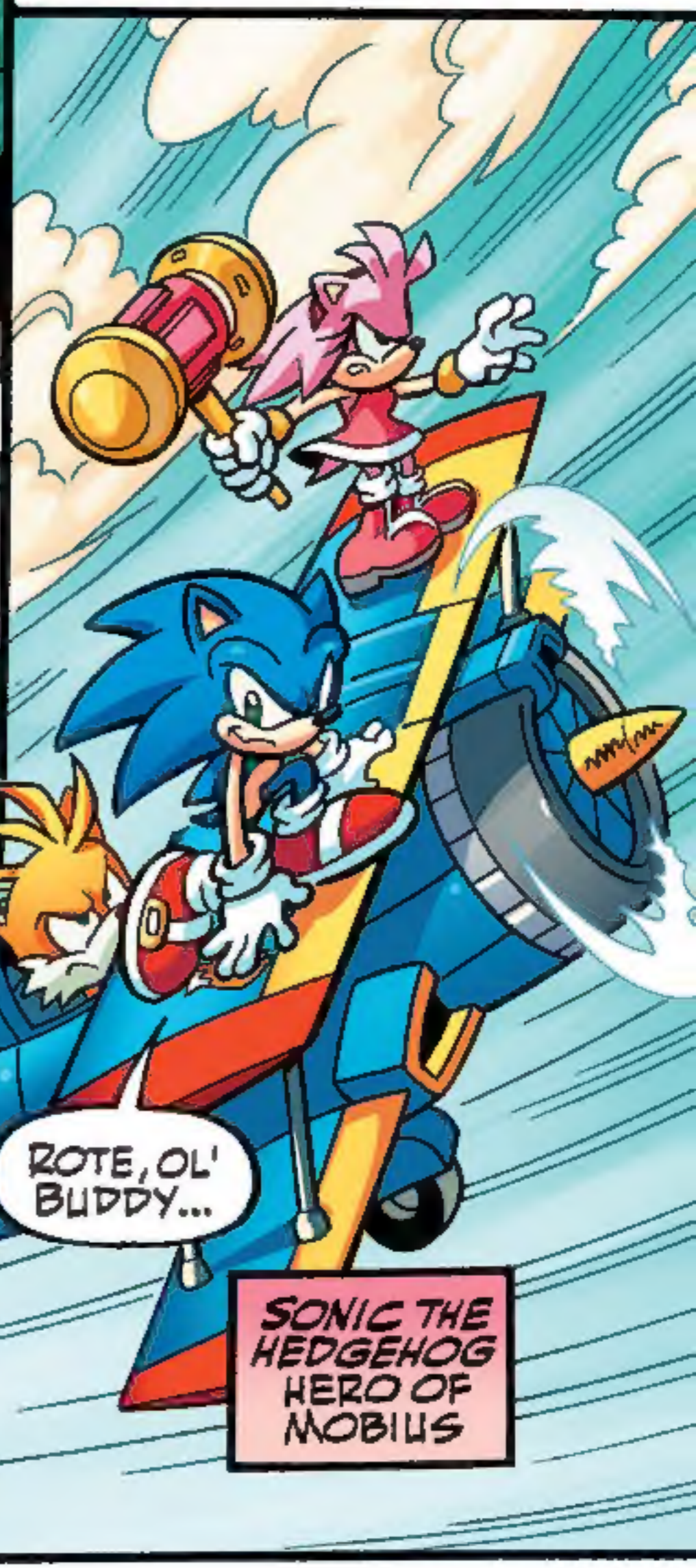
HE IS STILL ON THE COUNCIL, RIGHT?



THIS IS NOT THE TIME FOR DEBATE!



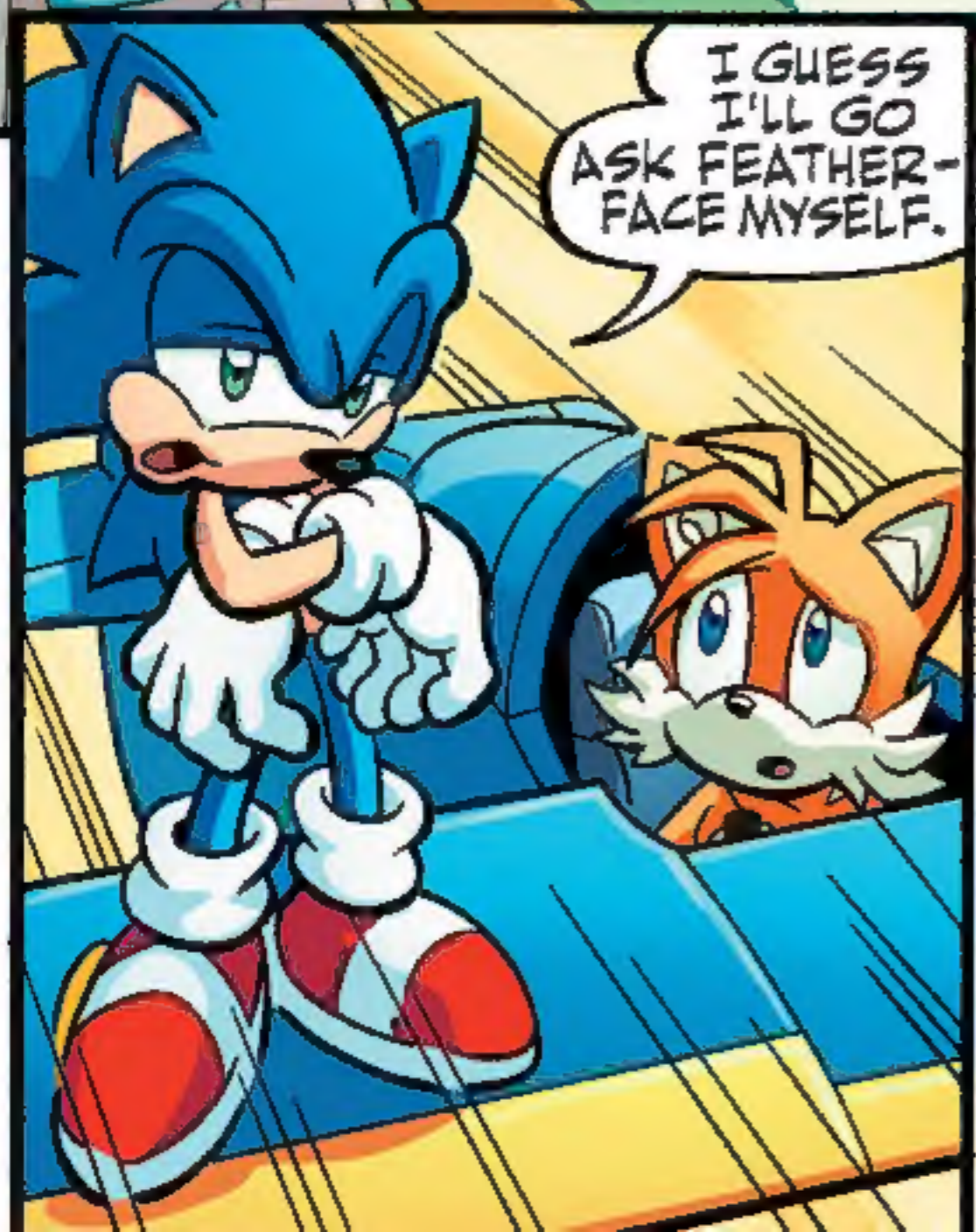
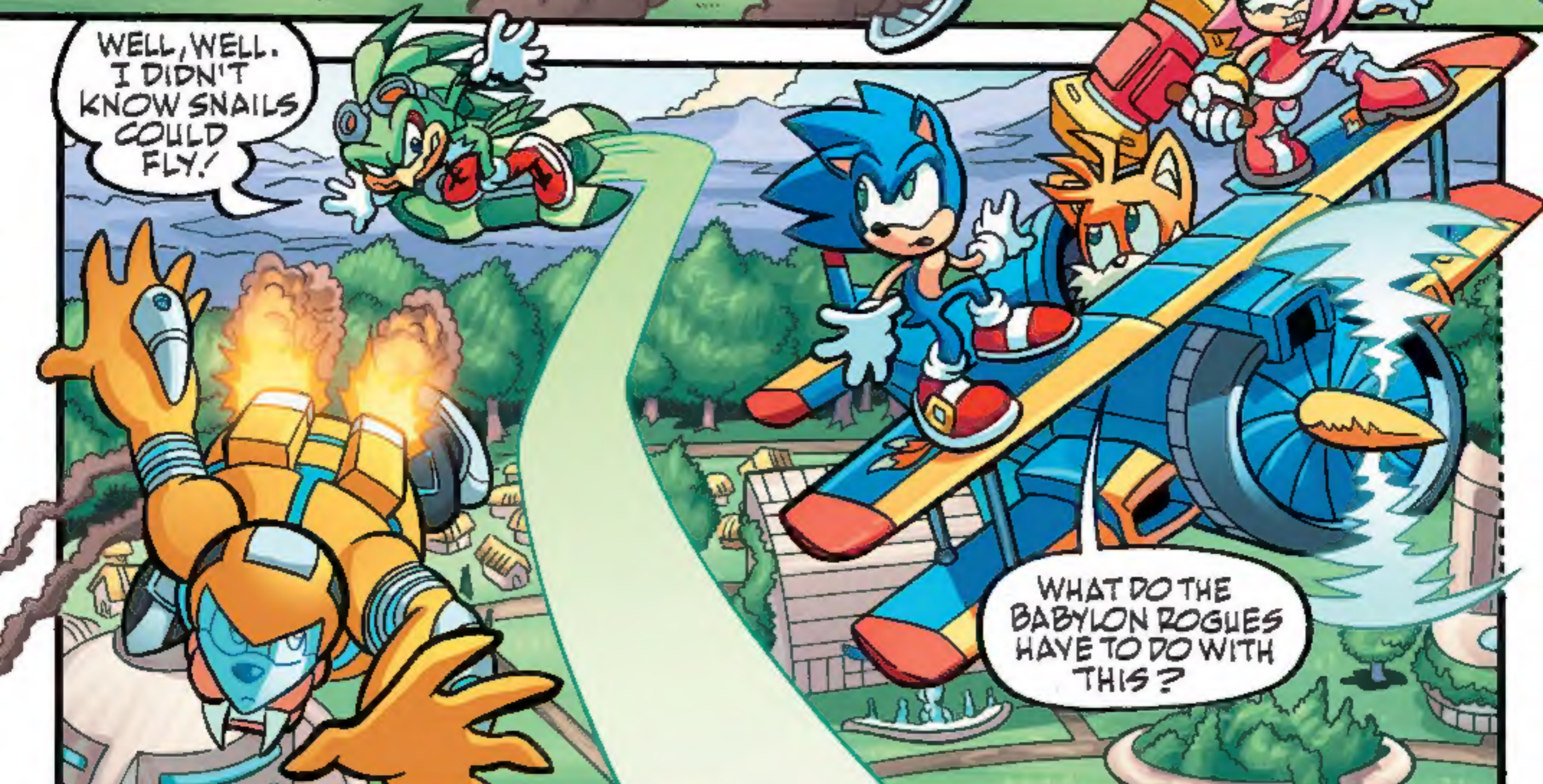
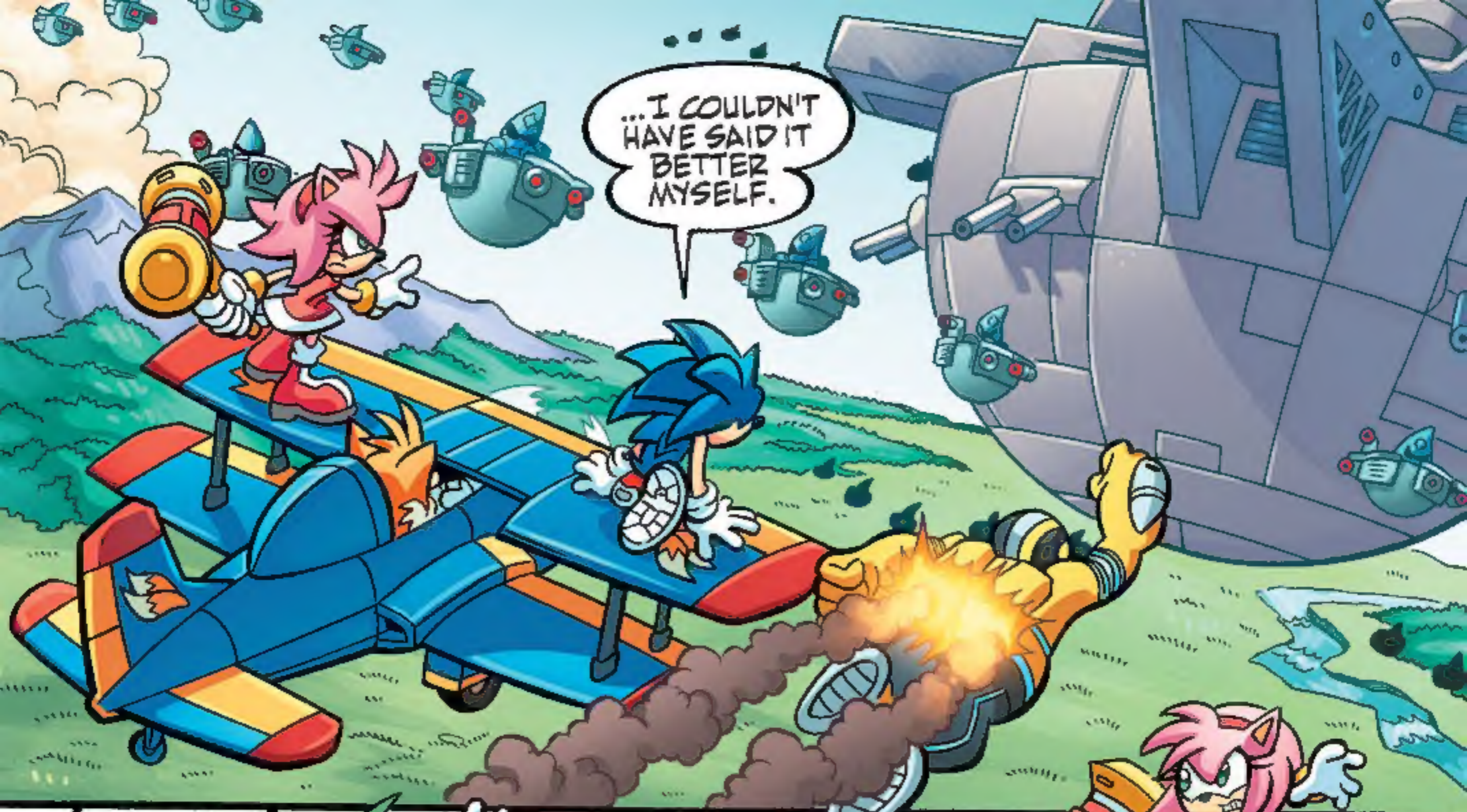
IT'S TIME FOR ACTION!
NOW MOVE IT!




ROTE, OL' BUDDY...


SONIC THE HEDGEHOG
HERO OF MOBIUS







YO, JET-SKI!
YOU NEED TO PUNCH
MY "BAD GUY
INVASION" CARD.
I'LL GET THE NEXT
ONE FOR FREE.

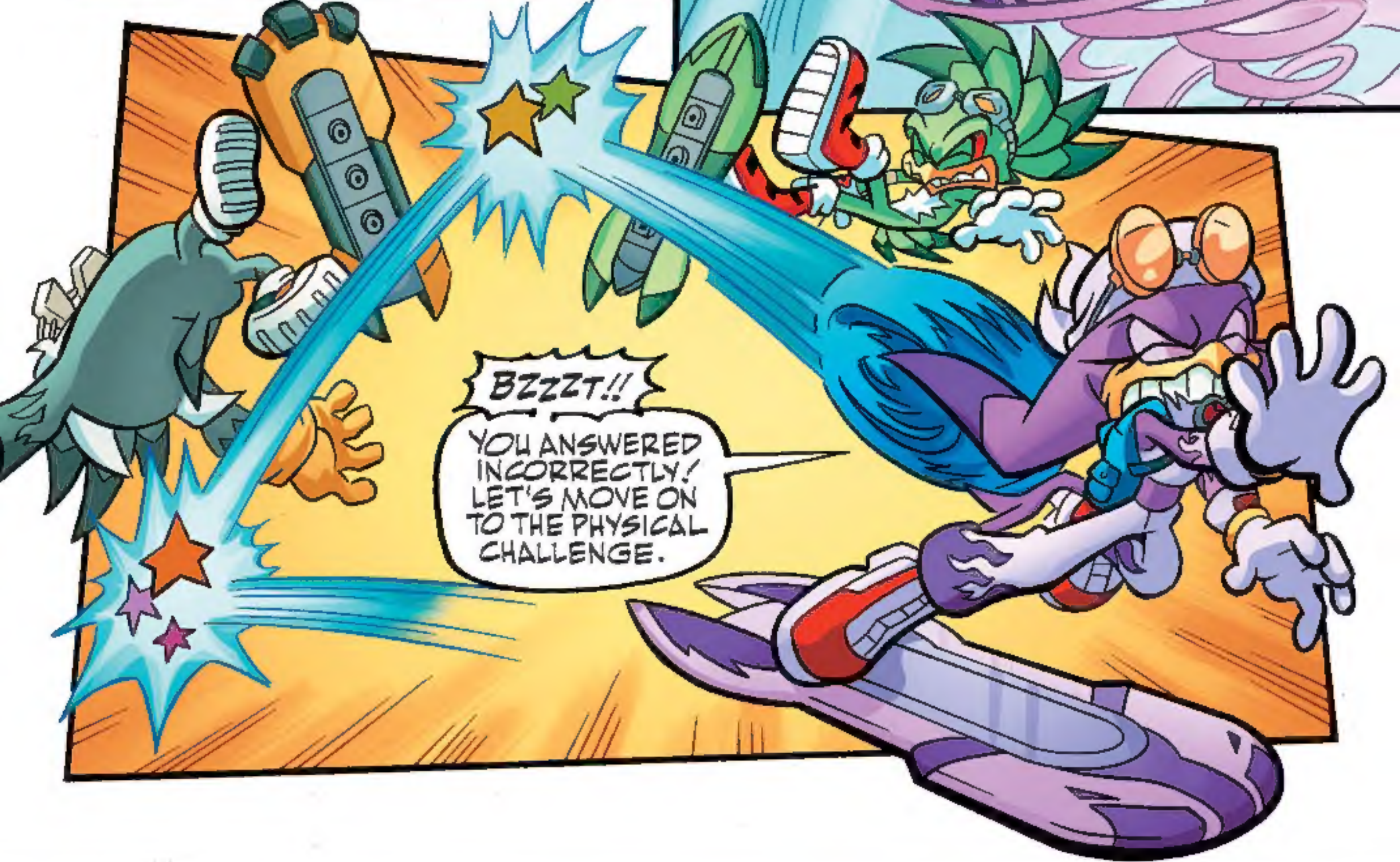


WHAT MAKES
YOU DORKS SO
EAGER FOR A
BEAT DOWN?

YOU'RE
THE ONE
GOING
DOWN.

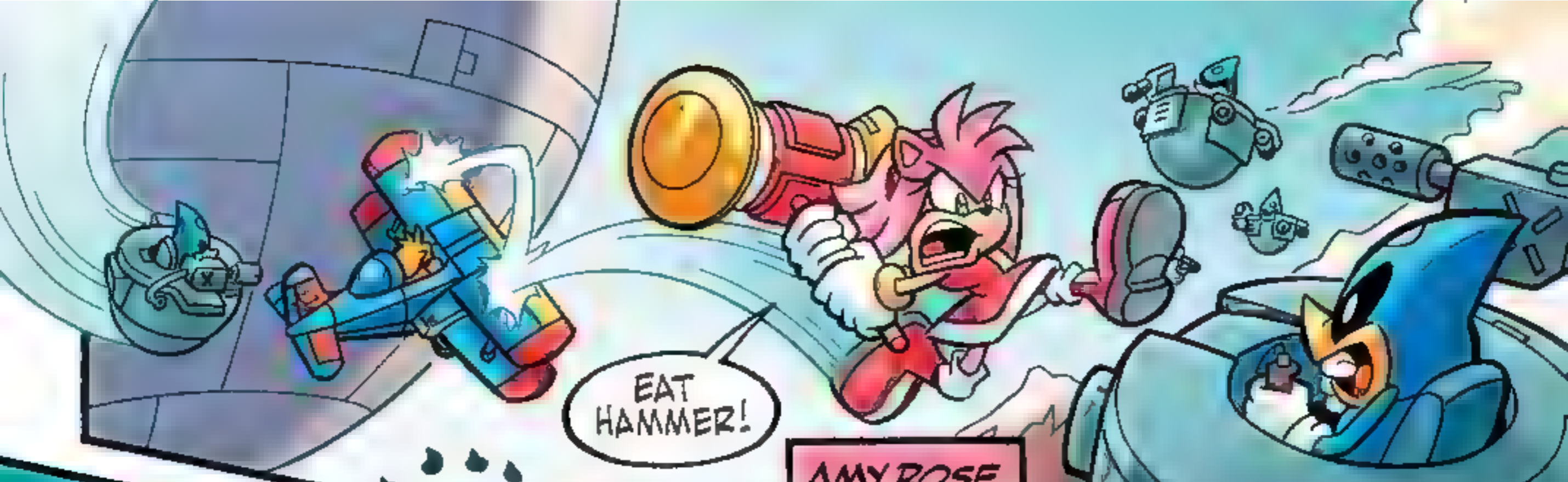


LITERALLY.



BZZZT!!

YOU ANSWERED
INCORRECTLY!
LET'S MOVE ON
TO THE PHYSICAL
CHALLENGE.

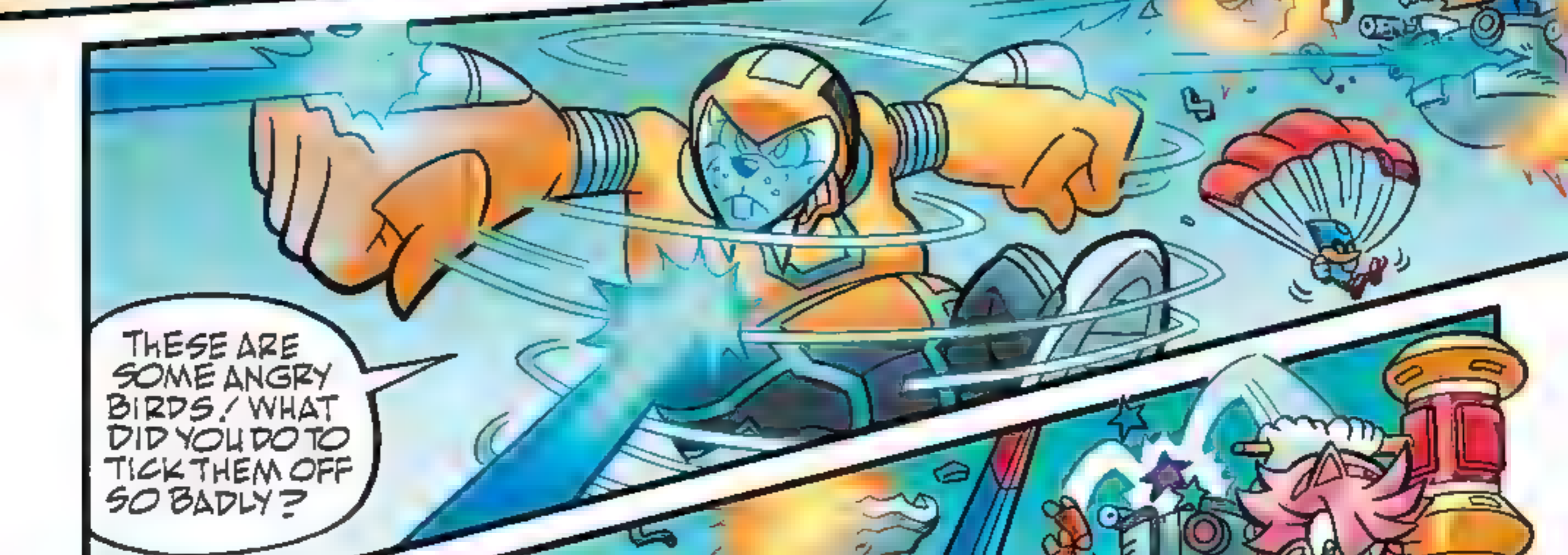


EAT HAMMER!

AMY ROSE
BERSERKER



WATCH YOUR TAIL, TAILS!



THESE ARE SOME ANGRY BIRDS. / WHAT DID YOU DO TO TICK THEM OFF SO BADLY?



HEY, THEY STARTED IT! * I'M KINDA SURPRISED THEY'D TAKE A GRUDGE THIS FAR, THOUGH. I HAVE A FEELING THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE GOING ON HERE.

*ONCE AGAIN, SEE SU #17-20-- "THE TAILS ADVENTURE".

THEY MAY
HAVE STARTED
IT, BUT WE'RE
GONNA FINISH
IT!

RIGHT!
LET'S TAKE
'EM DOWN!

FEAR NOT, MY
SUBJECTS! YOUR
KING SHALL SAVE
YOU ONCE
AGAIN!

**IXIS NAUGLIS
USURPER TO
THE CROWN**

ARE YOU SURE
THIS IS A GOOD
IDEA?

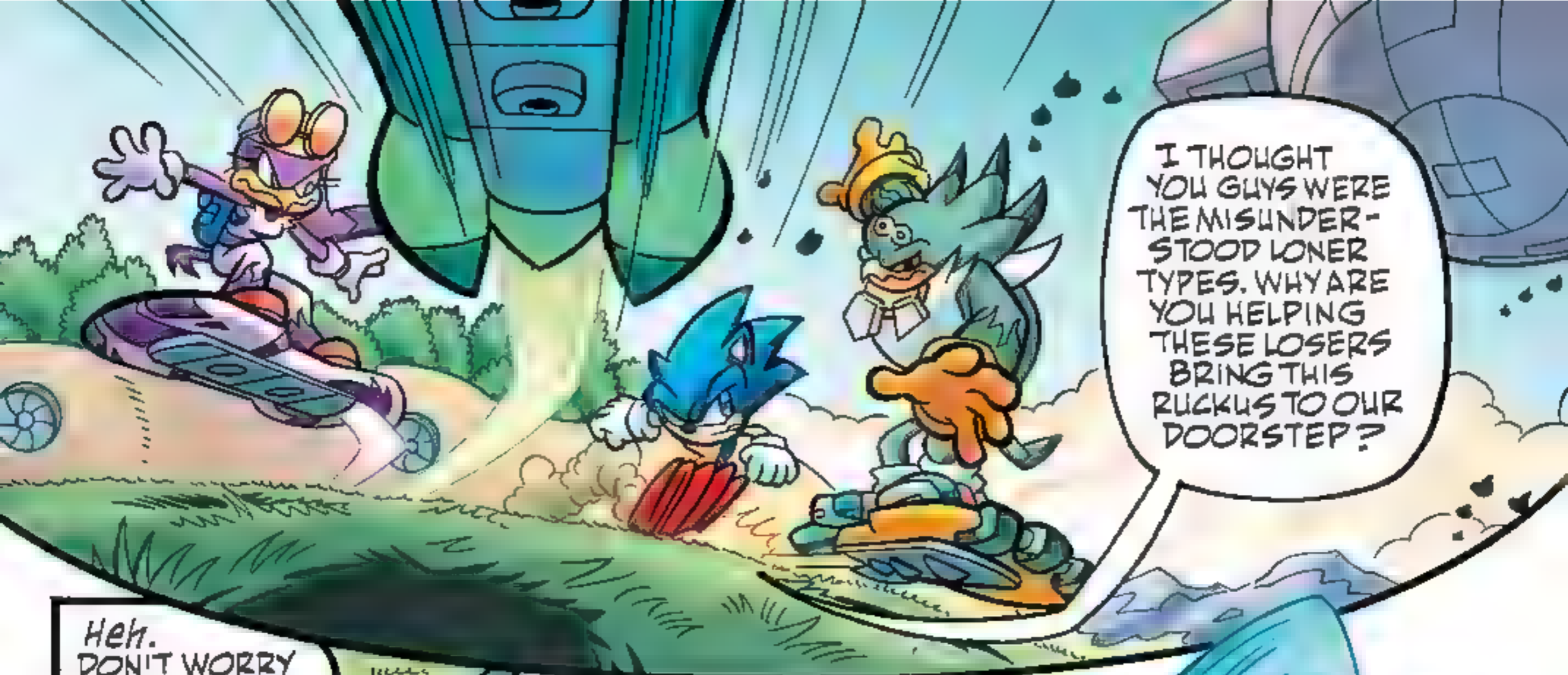
YOU'RE NOT
EXACTLY
YOURSELF
LATELY.
OR SHOULD
I SAY,
OURSELF?

INDEED! I
DESTROYED THE TITAN
METAL SONIC* DESPITE
YOUR DISTRACTING
CHATTER. NOW THIS
MECHANIZED AIR FLEET
WILL FARE NO BETTER
AGAINST MY
MAGICK!

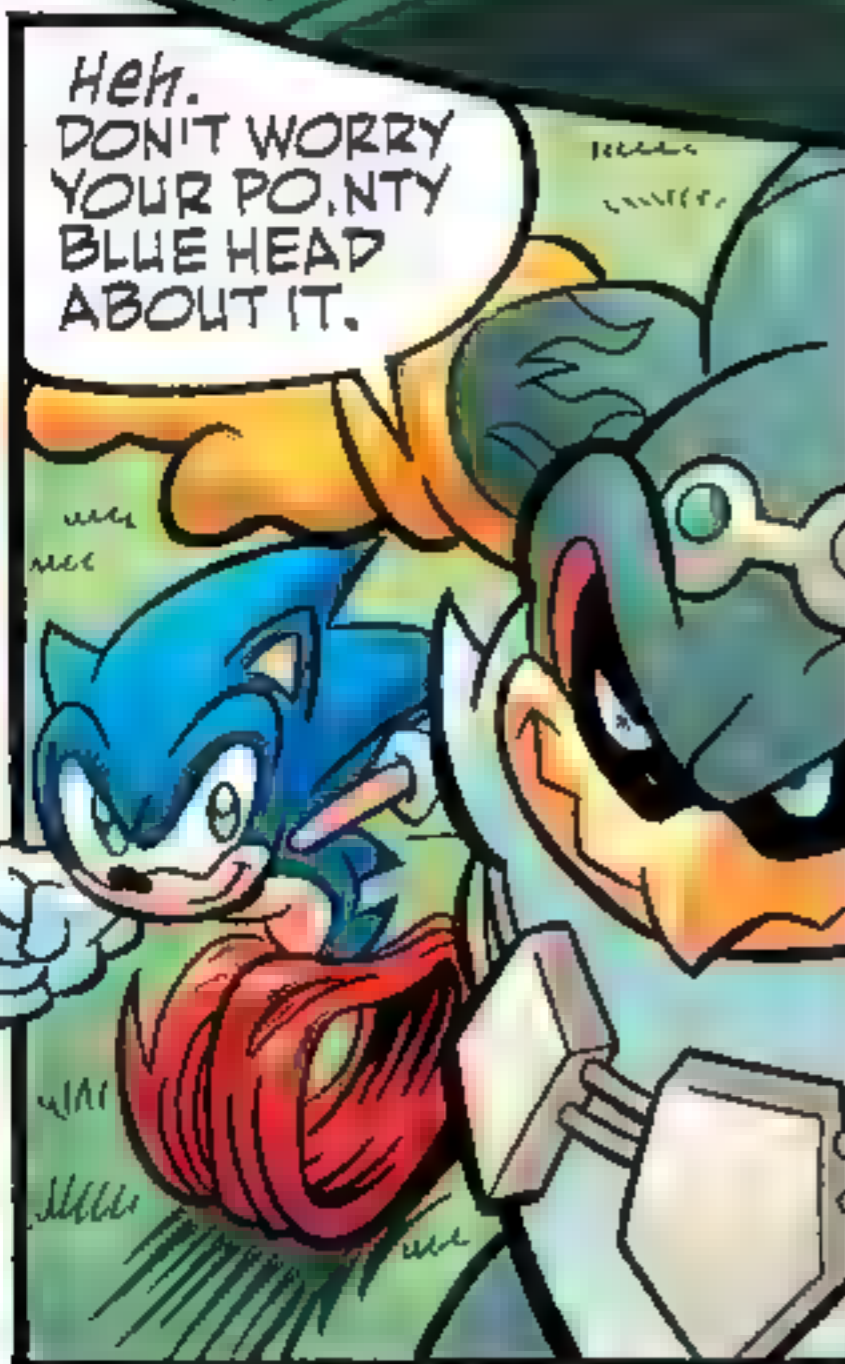
OUR
MAGICK,
YOU MEAN.

*SEE STH
#231

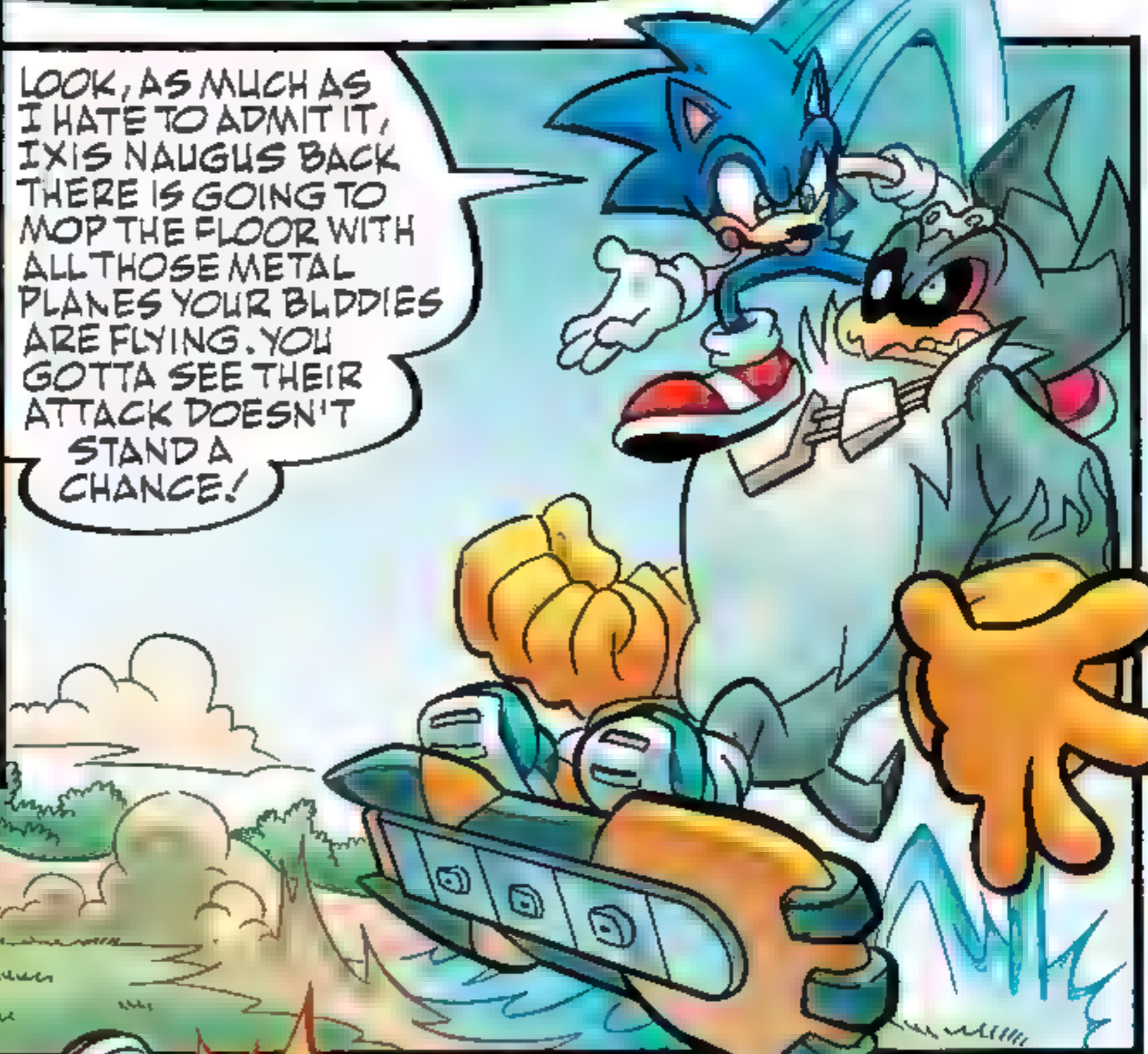
NONSENSE!
BE QUIET,
YOU TWO!



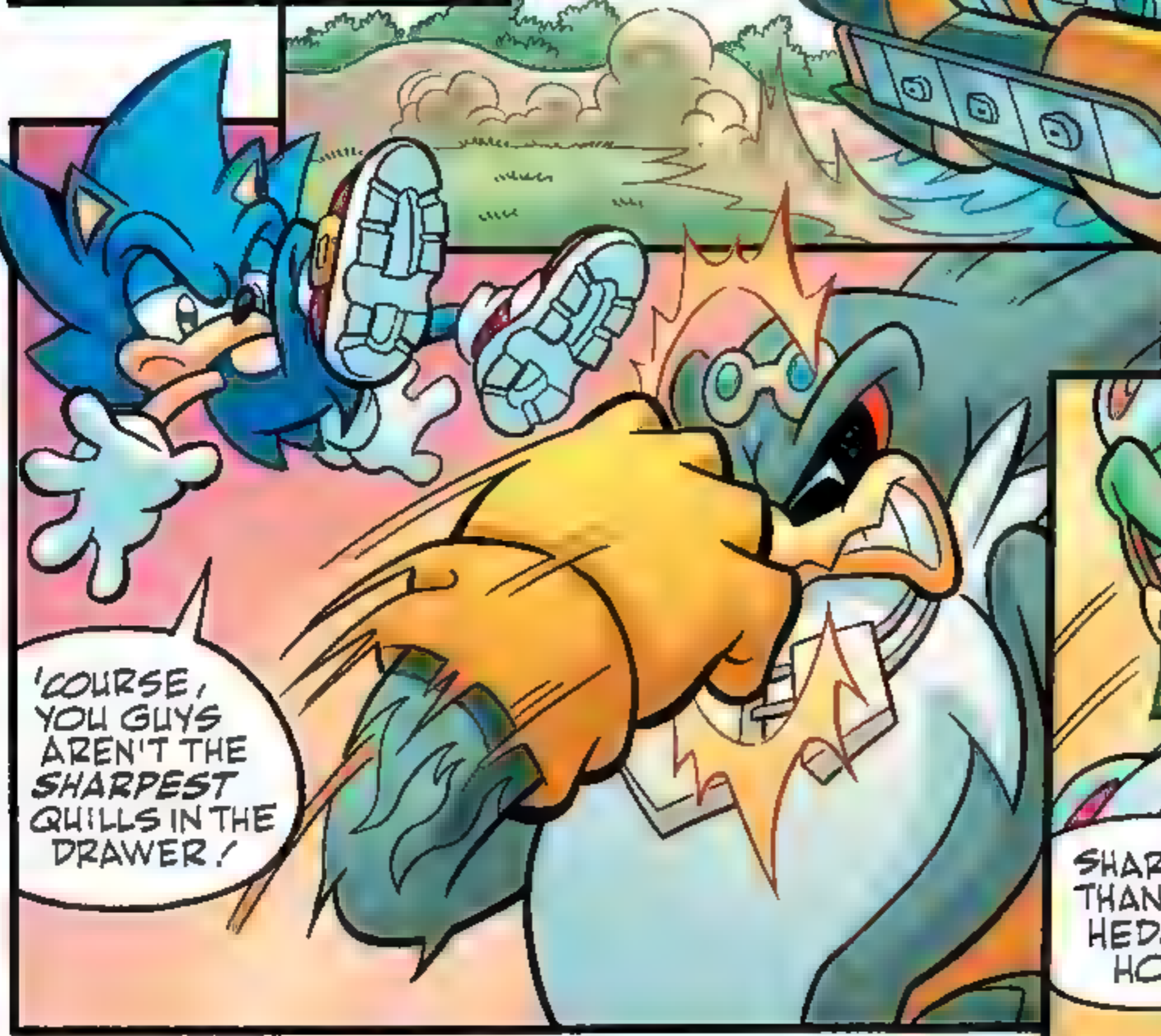
I THOUGHT YOU GUYS WERE THE MISUNDERSTOOD LONER TYPES. WHY ARE YOU HELPING THESE LOSERS BRING THIS RUCKUS TO OUR DOORSTEP?



Heh. DON'T WORRY YOUR POINTY BLUE HEAD ABOUT IT.



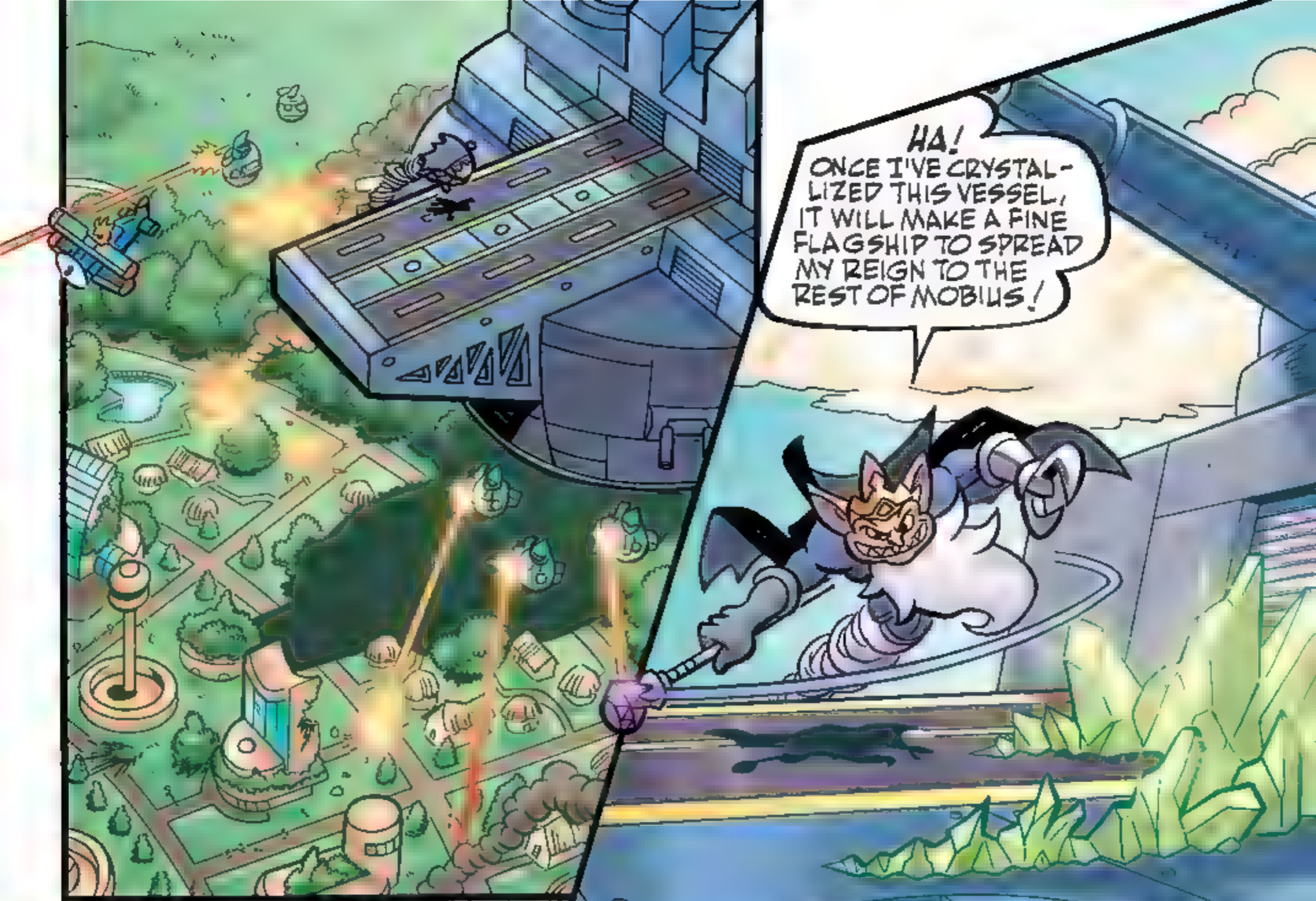
LOOK, AS MUCH AS I HATE TO ADMIT IT, IXIS NAUGUS BACK THERE IS GOING TO MOP THE FLOOR WITH ALL THOSE METAL PLANES YOUR BLOODIES ARE FLYING. YOU GOTTA SEE THEIR ATTACK DOESN'T STAND A CHANCE!



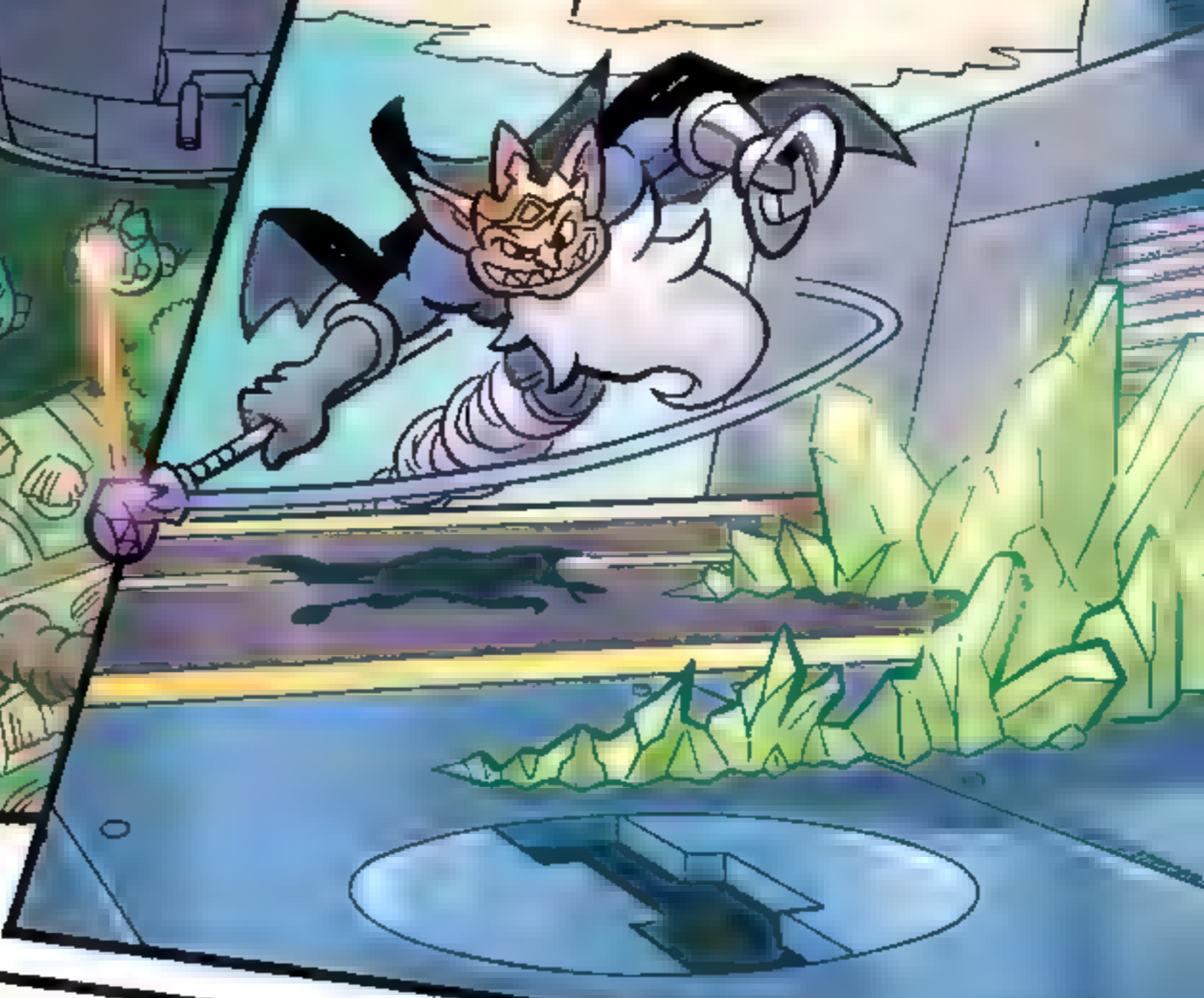
COURSE, YOU GUYS AREN'T THE SHARPEST QUILLS IN THE DRAWER!



SHARPER THAN YOU, HEDGE-HOG.



HA!
ONCE I'VE CRYSTAL-
LIZED THIS VESSEL,
IT WILL MAKE A FINE
FLAGSHIP TO SPREAD
MY REIGN TO THE
REST OF MOBIUS!



MY DEAR
SIR, I THINK YOU'LL FIND
IT'S BEST NOT TO COUNT ONE'S
CHICKENS BEFORE THEY'VE
HATCHED. ALLOW ME TO
INTRODUCE
MYSELF...



I AM THE GRAND
BATTLE KUKKUH.
FOURTEENTH BATTLE
LORD OF THE BATTLE
BIRD ARMADA.

WITH WHOM
DO I HAVE THE
PLEASURE OF
SPEAKING?



I AM KING IXIS NAUGUS!
BEARER OF THE CROWN OF
ACORNS! WIELDER OF
THE ANCIENT IXIAN
MAGICKS!

YES. A
WIZARD.

THE
WIZARD.

WIZARDS!

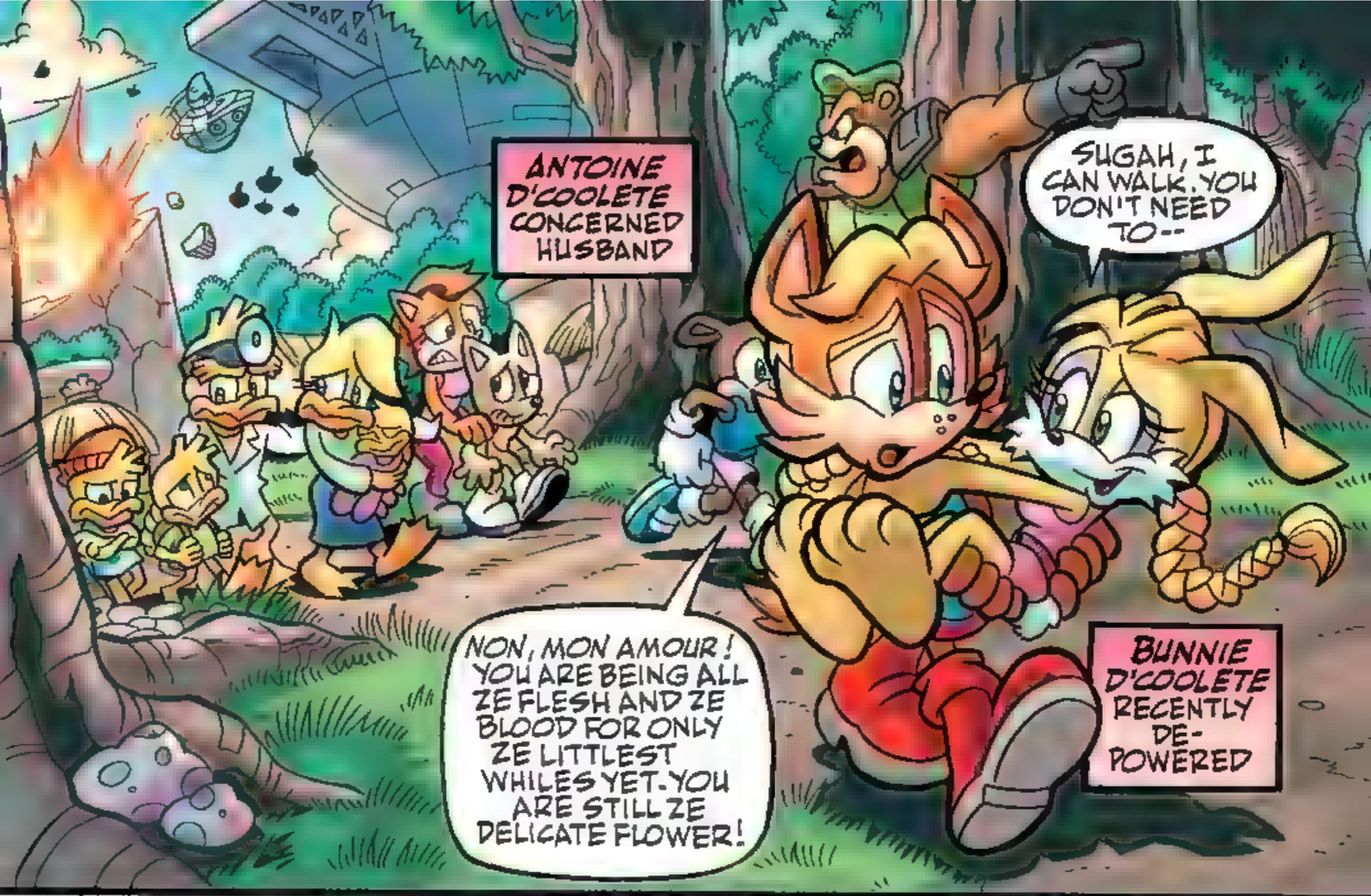
YOU RELY
ON MAGIC
TO
ACHIEVE
YOUR
GOALS.

MY CHIEF
ENGINEER RELIES
ENTIRELY ON HIS
MACHINES.

MY PREFERRED
MEANS TO AN END,
HOWEVER...

... IS BRUTE
FORCE.

I TOLD YOU
THIS WAS A
BAD IDEA.

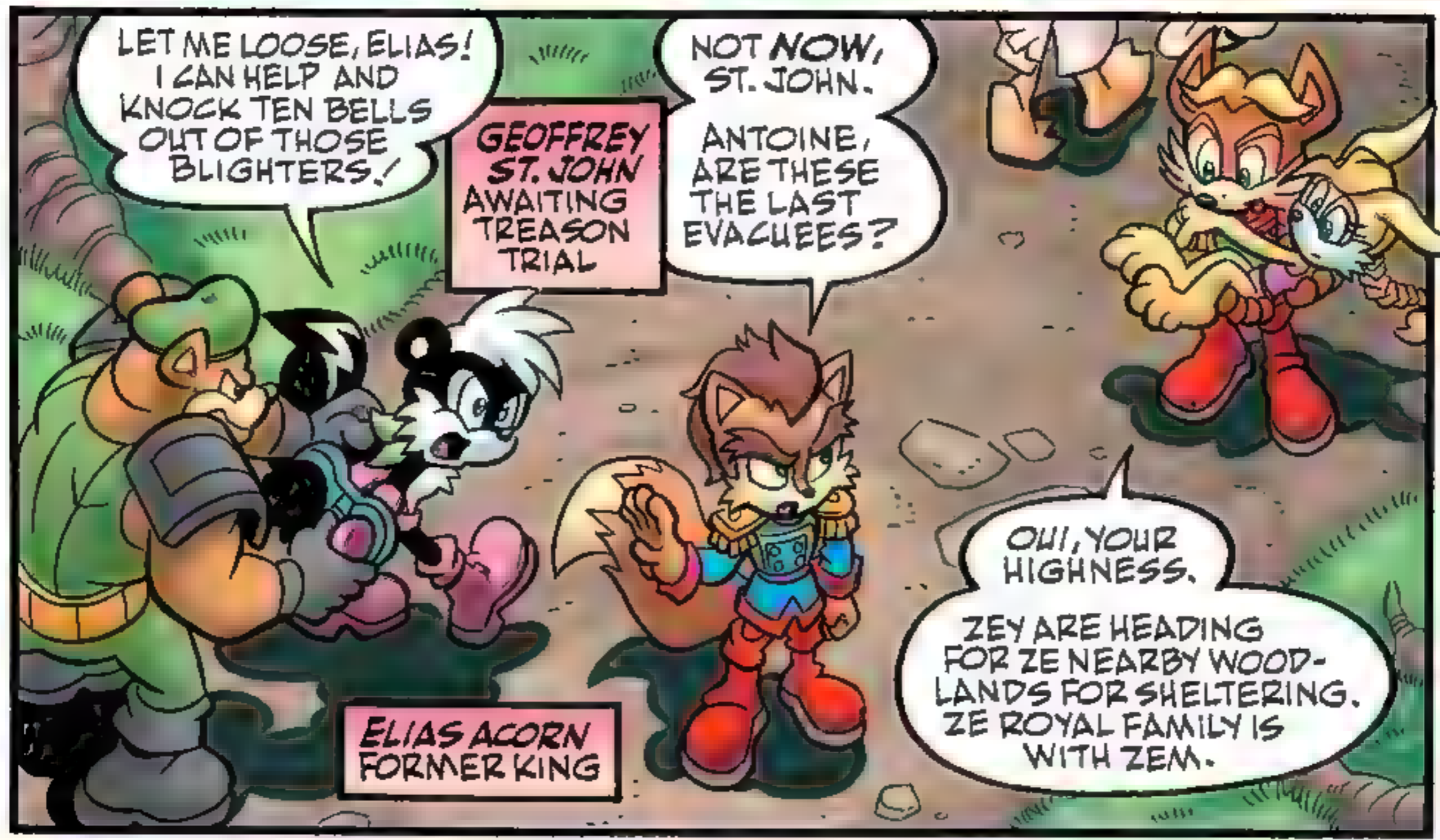


ANTOINE D'COOLETE CONCERNED HUSBAND

SUGAH, I CAN WALK. YOU DON'T NEED TO--

NON, MON AMOUR! YOU ARE BEING ALL ZE FLESH AND ZE BLOOD FOR ONLY ZE LITTLEST WHILES YET. YOU ARE STILL ZE DELICATE FLOWER!

BUNNIE D'COOLETE RECENTLY DE-POWERED



LET ME LOOSE, ELIAS! I CAN HELP AND KNOCK TEN BELLS OUT OF THOSE BLIGHTERS! /

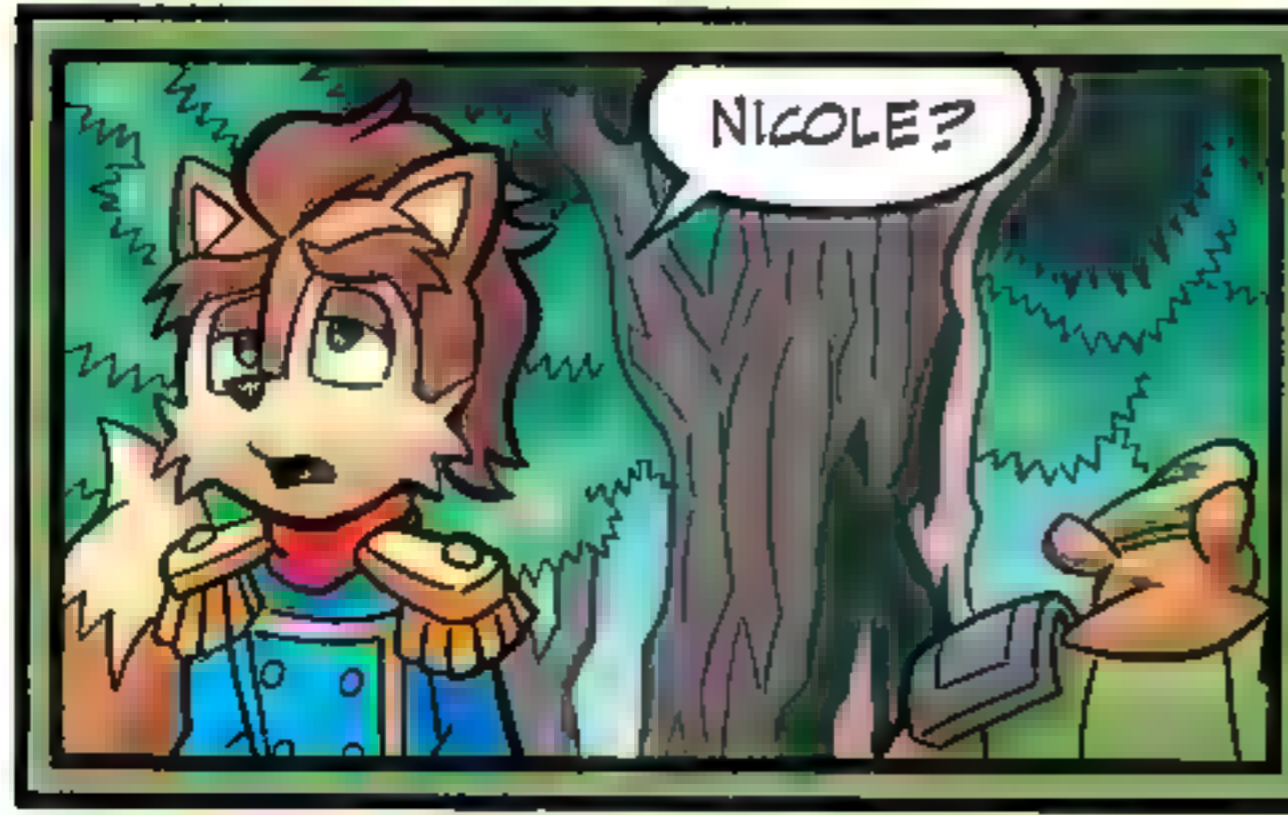
GEOFFREY ST. JOHN AWAITING TREASON TRIAL

NOT NOW, ST. JOHN.

ANTOINE, ARE THESE THE LAST EVACUEES?

ELIAS ACORN FORMER KING

OUI, YOUR HIGHNESS. ZEY ARE HEADING FOR ZE NEARBY WOODLANDS FOR SHELTERING. ZE ROYAL FAMILY IS WITH ZEM.



NICOLE?



YES?



DID YOU COMPLETE THE "CITY RESTORE POINT" THAT ROTOR SUGGESTED BEFORE THE ATTACK BEGAN?

YES.



Sigh GOOD.

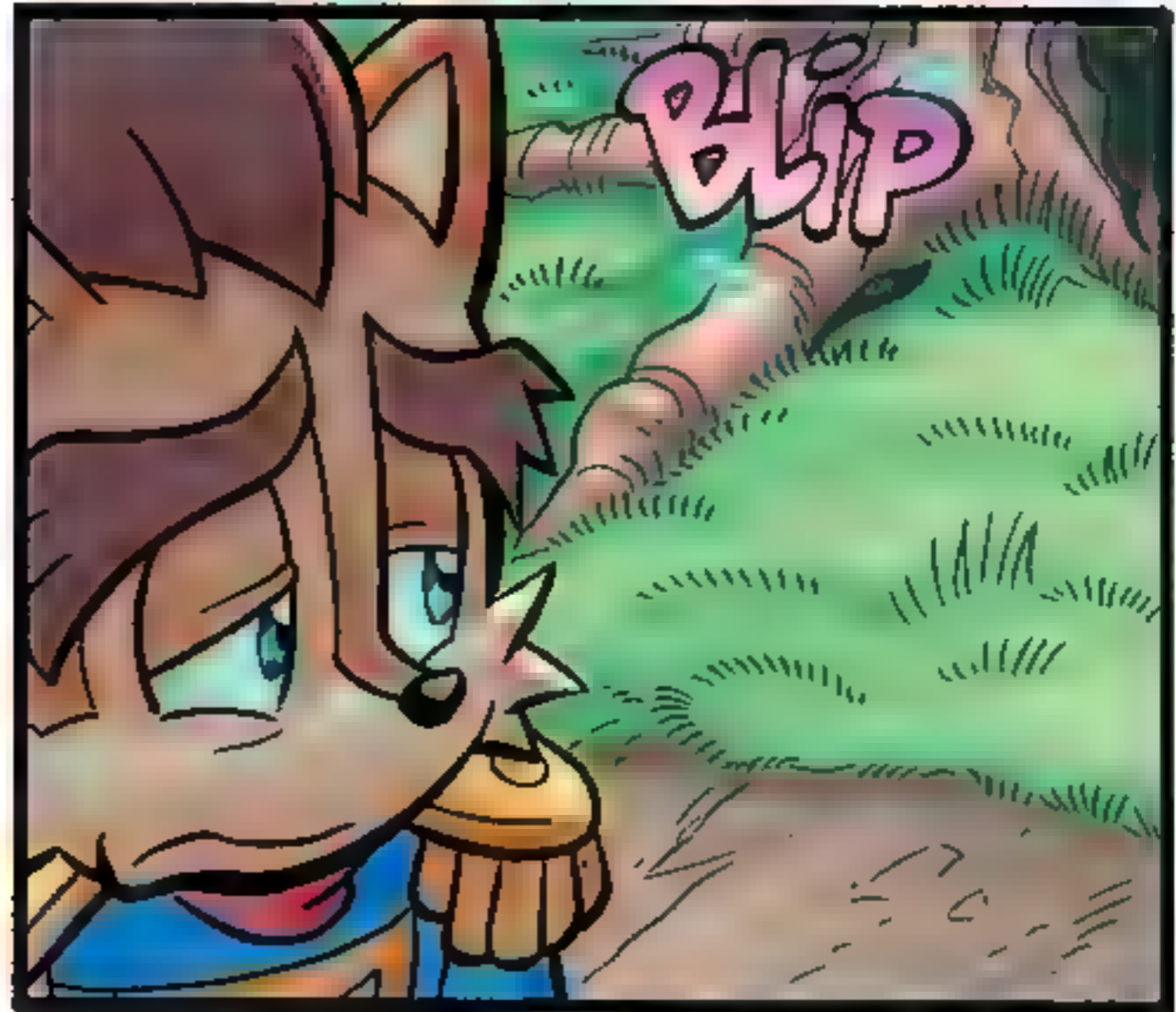
THE NANITIES SHOULDN'T HAVE TOO HARD A TIME REPAIRING THE DAMAGE TO THE CITY.



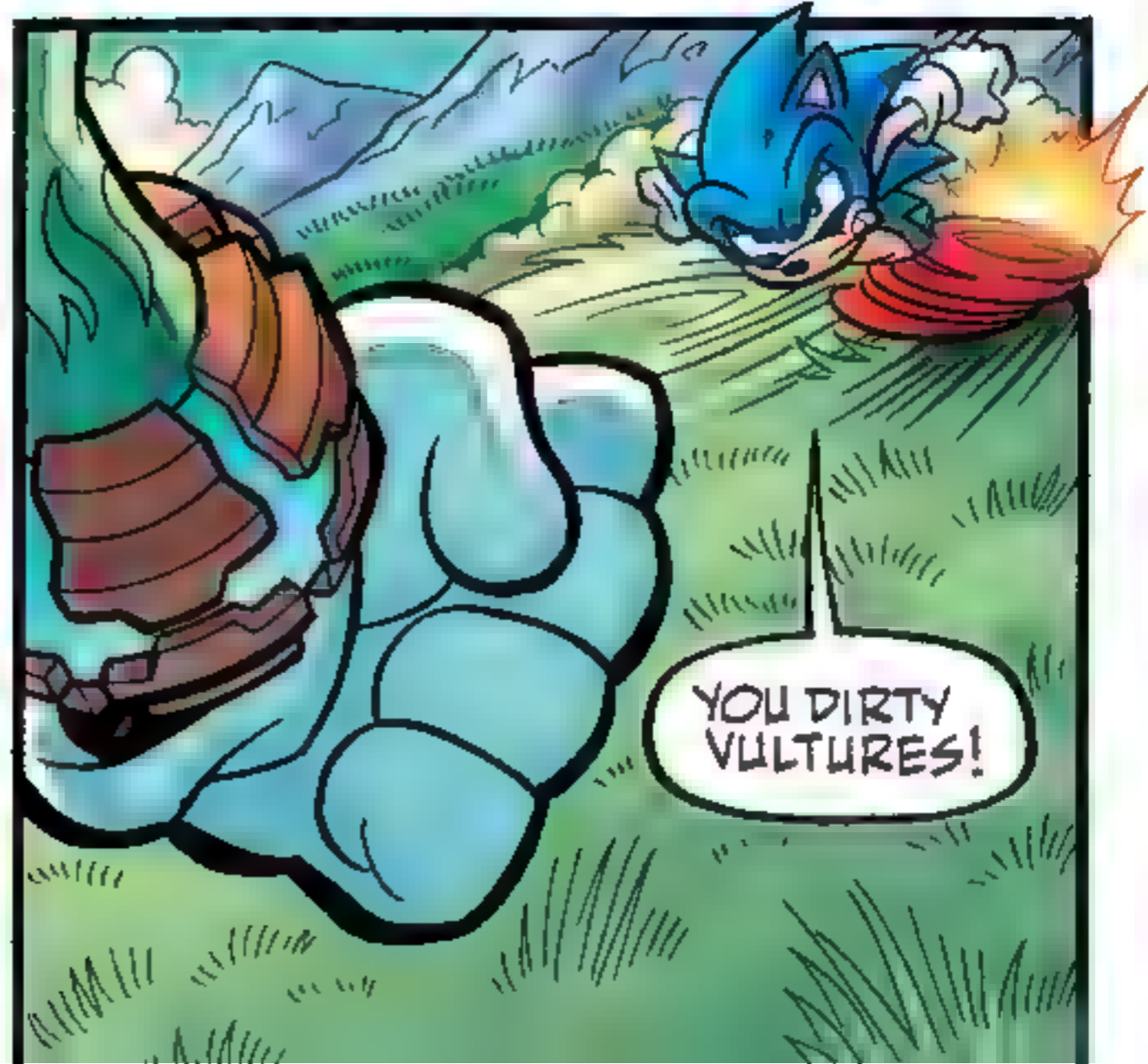
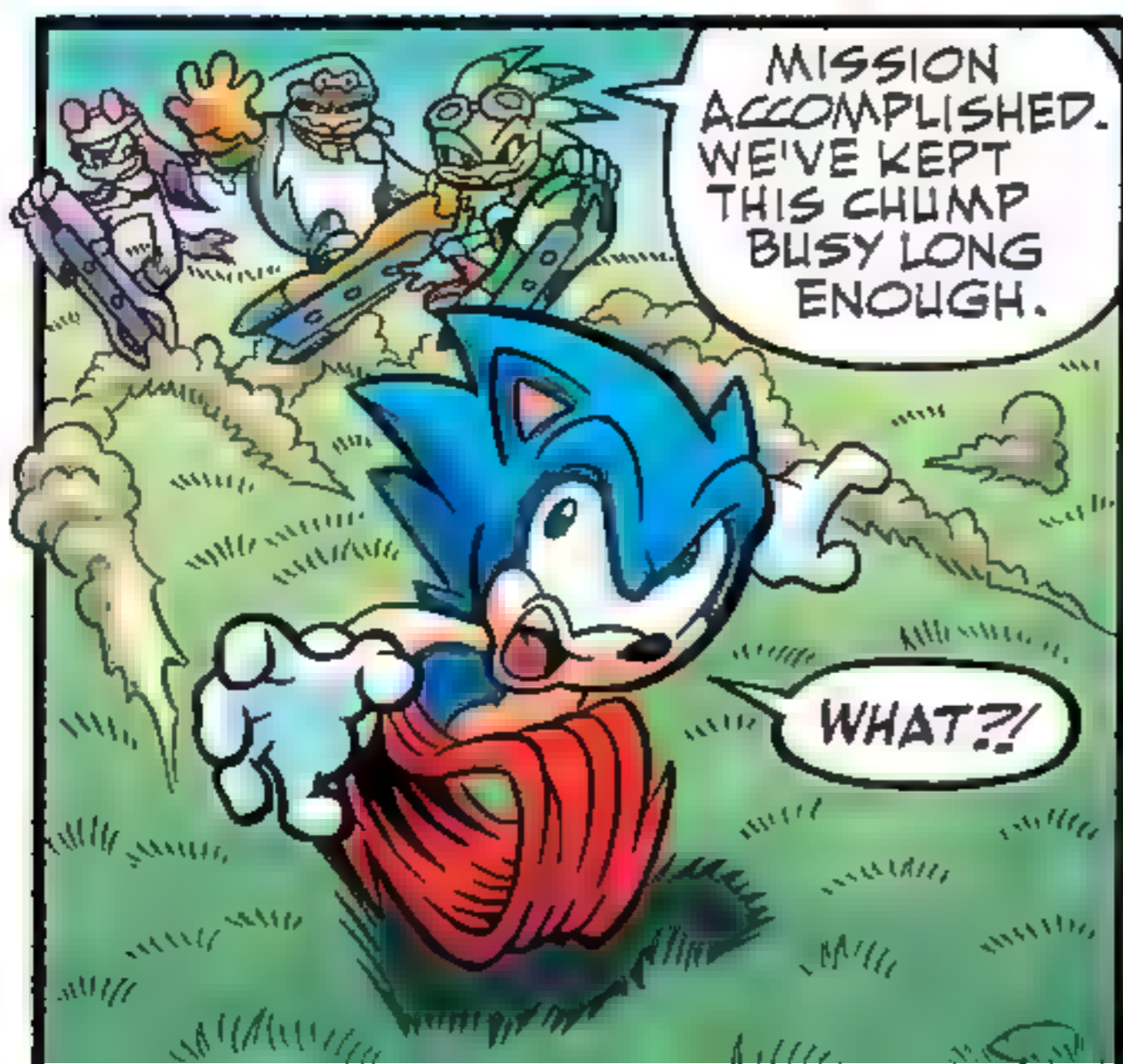
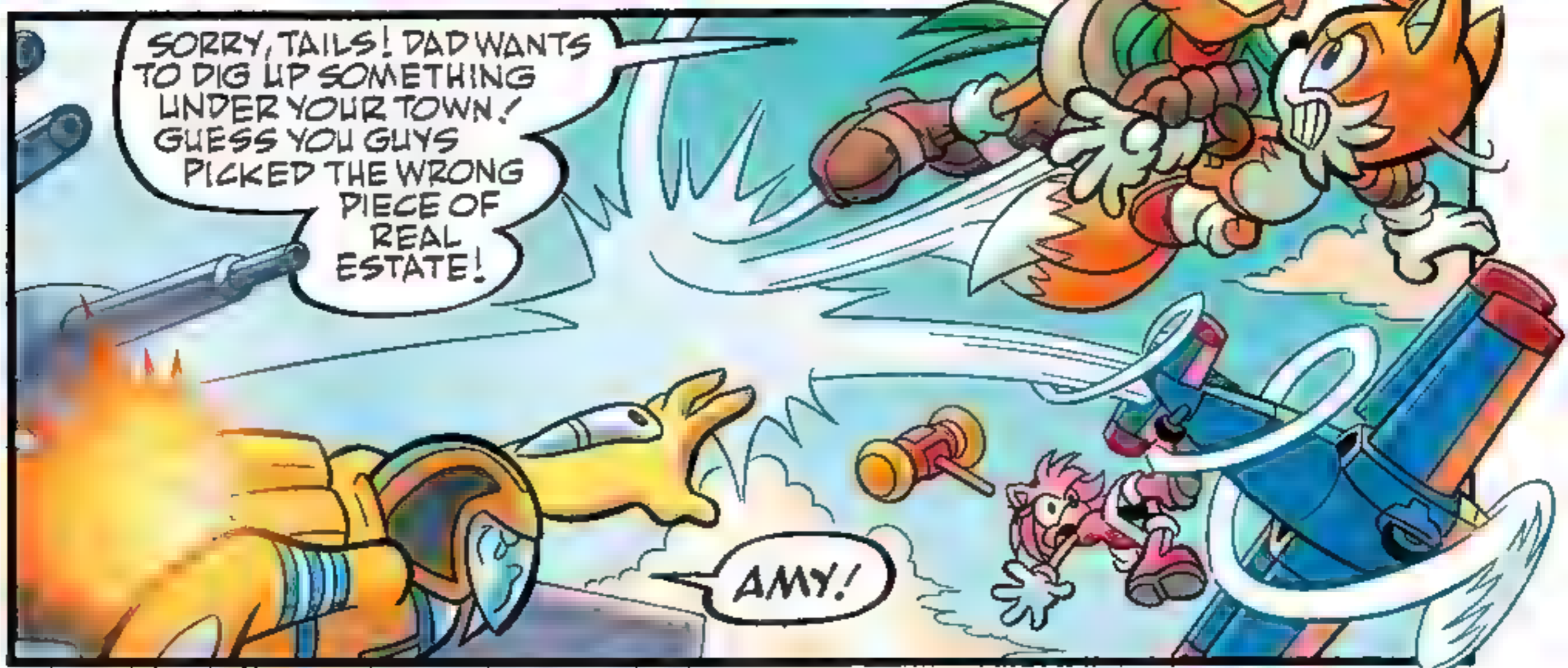
HAVE YOU BACKED UP YOUR PROGRAM TO THE FREEDOM HQ SERVERS?



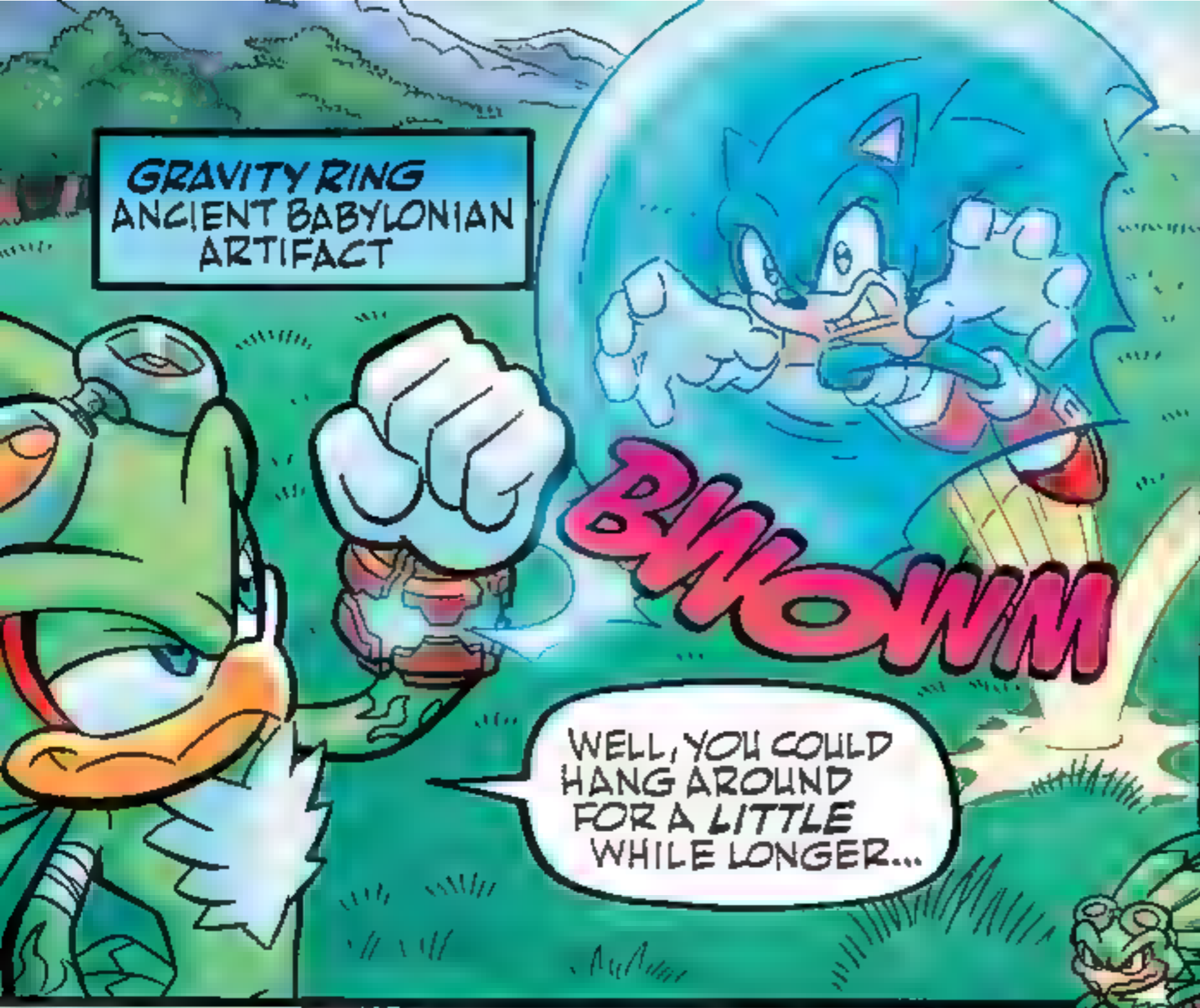
NICOLE, I KNOW YOU WERE VERY CLOSE TO MY SISTER. I--



BLIP

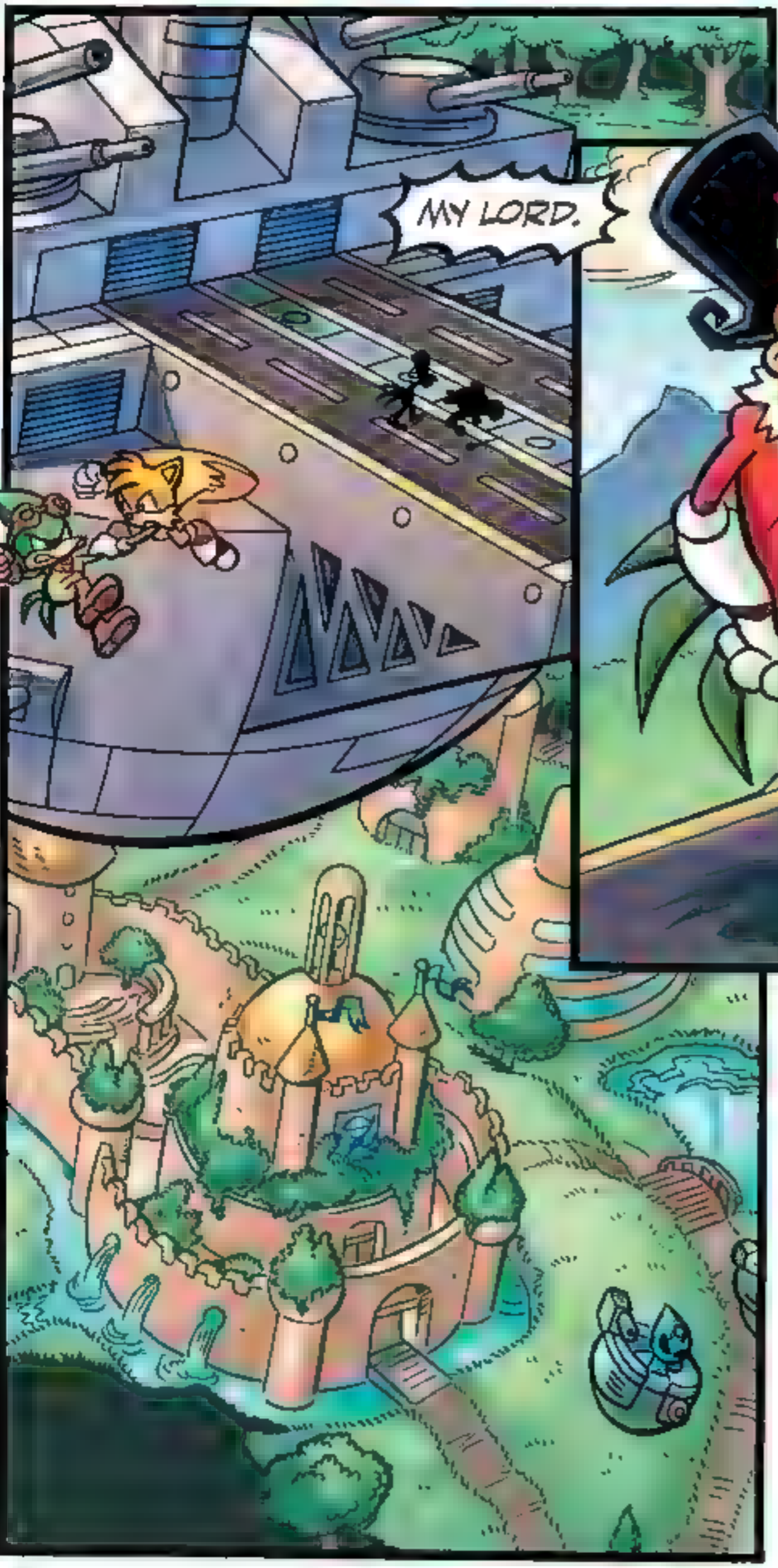
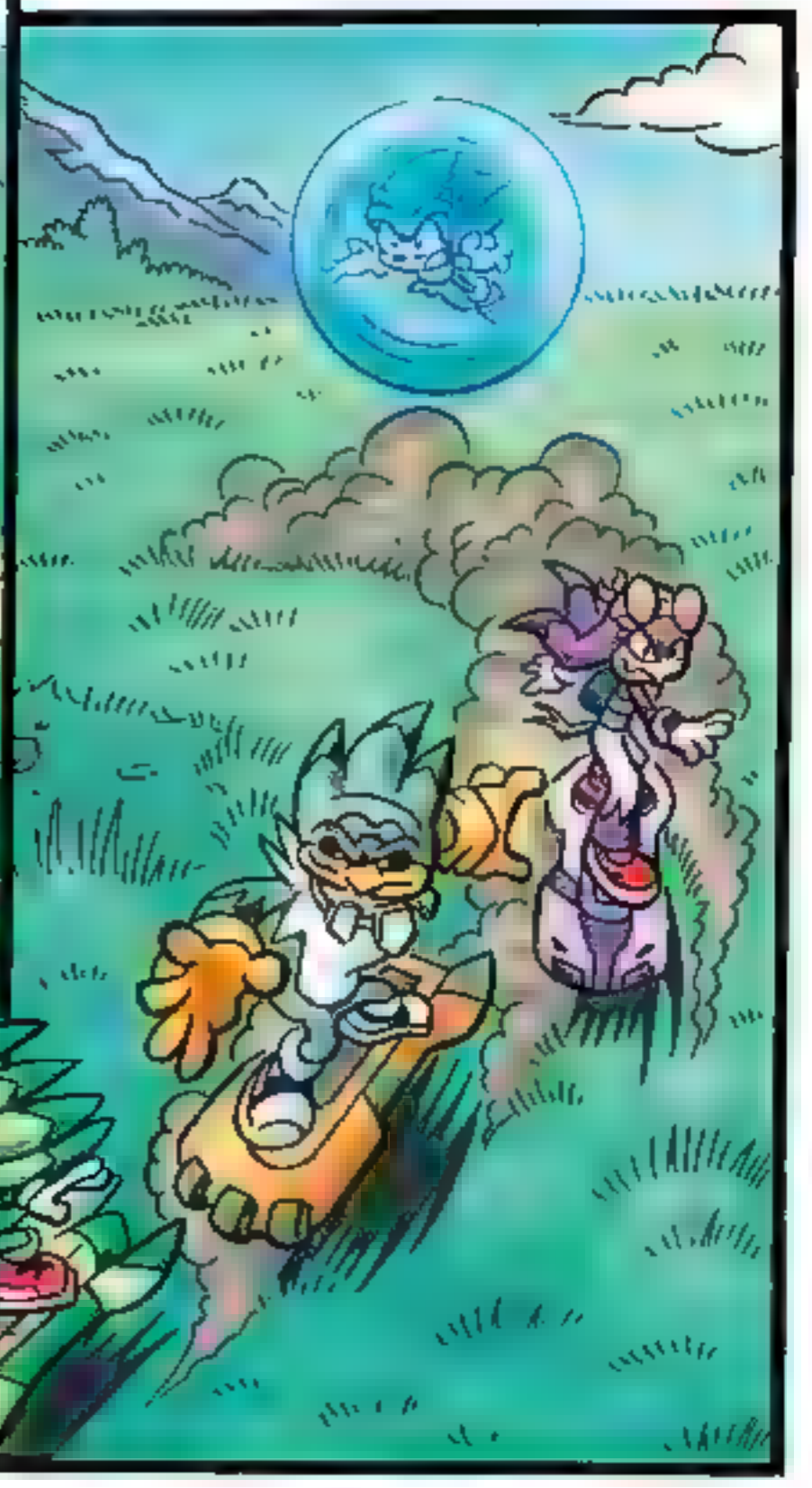


GRAVITY RING
ANCIENT BABYLONIAN
ARTIFACT



BWOWN

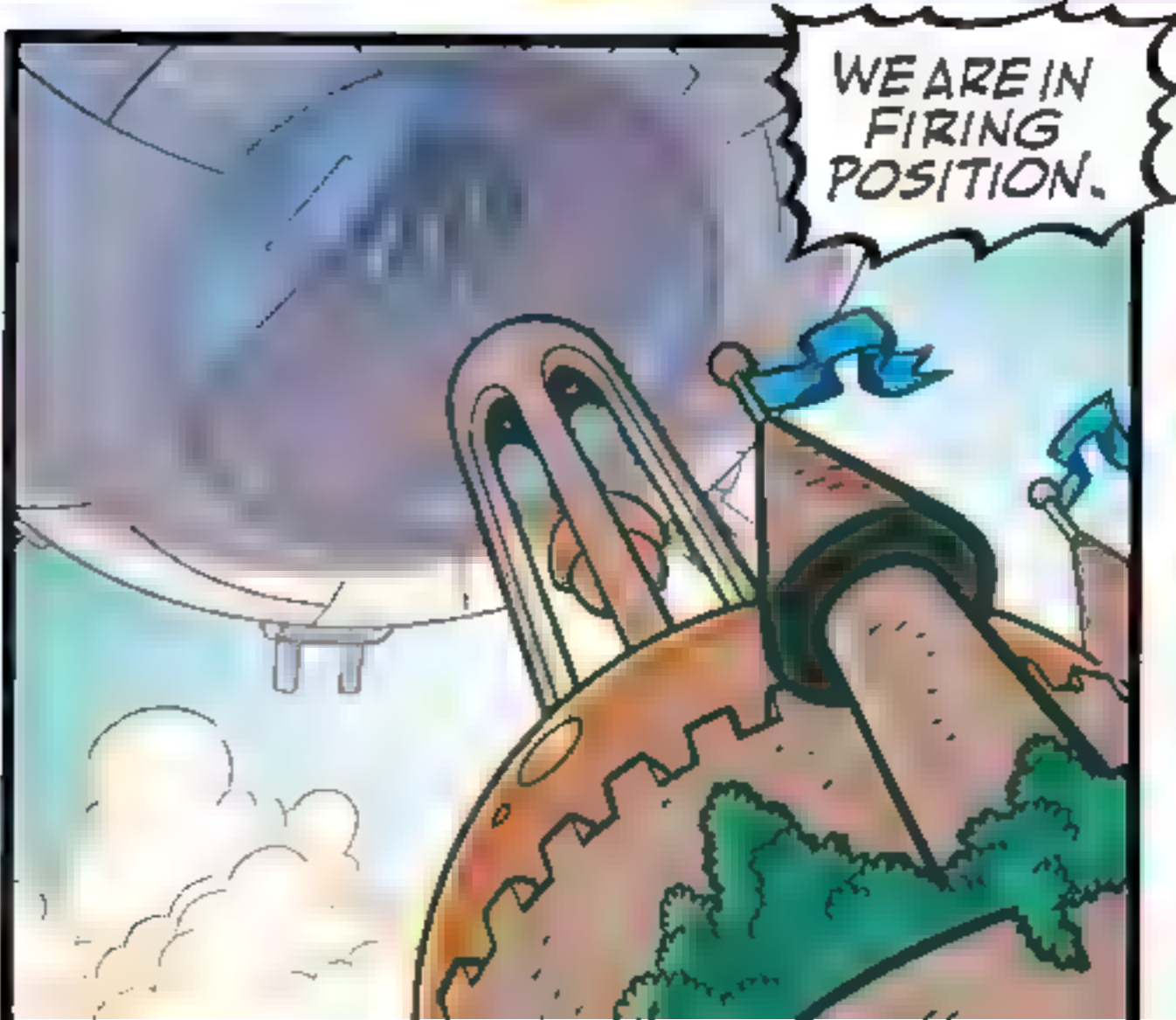
WELL, YOU COULD
HANG AROUND
FOR A LITTLE
WHILE LONGER...



MY LORD.



GO AHEAD,
DOCTOR.



WE ARE IN
FIRING
POSITION.



GET UP YOU WEAKLING!

I WONDER IF IT WAS MERE CHANCE OR SOME INTELLIGENT DESIGN THAT HAS PLACED YOUR METROPOLIS ATOP AN ANCIENT RELIC OF UN-FATHOMABLE POWER.

REGARDLESS, I MUST RETRIEVE WHAT IS MINE, AND WHAT IS YOURS IS ALL THAT STANDS IN MY WAY.

THIS NEVER WOULD'VE HAPPENED IF I WERE IN CHARGE!



YOU'RE PRETTY GOOD, TAILS. I'M SORRY TO HAVE TO DO THIS.

ONLY MY FRIENDS CALL ME "TAILS".



WELL, GENTLEMEN... I'D LIKE TO SAY IT'S BEEN A PLEASURE MEETING YOU...

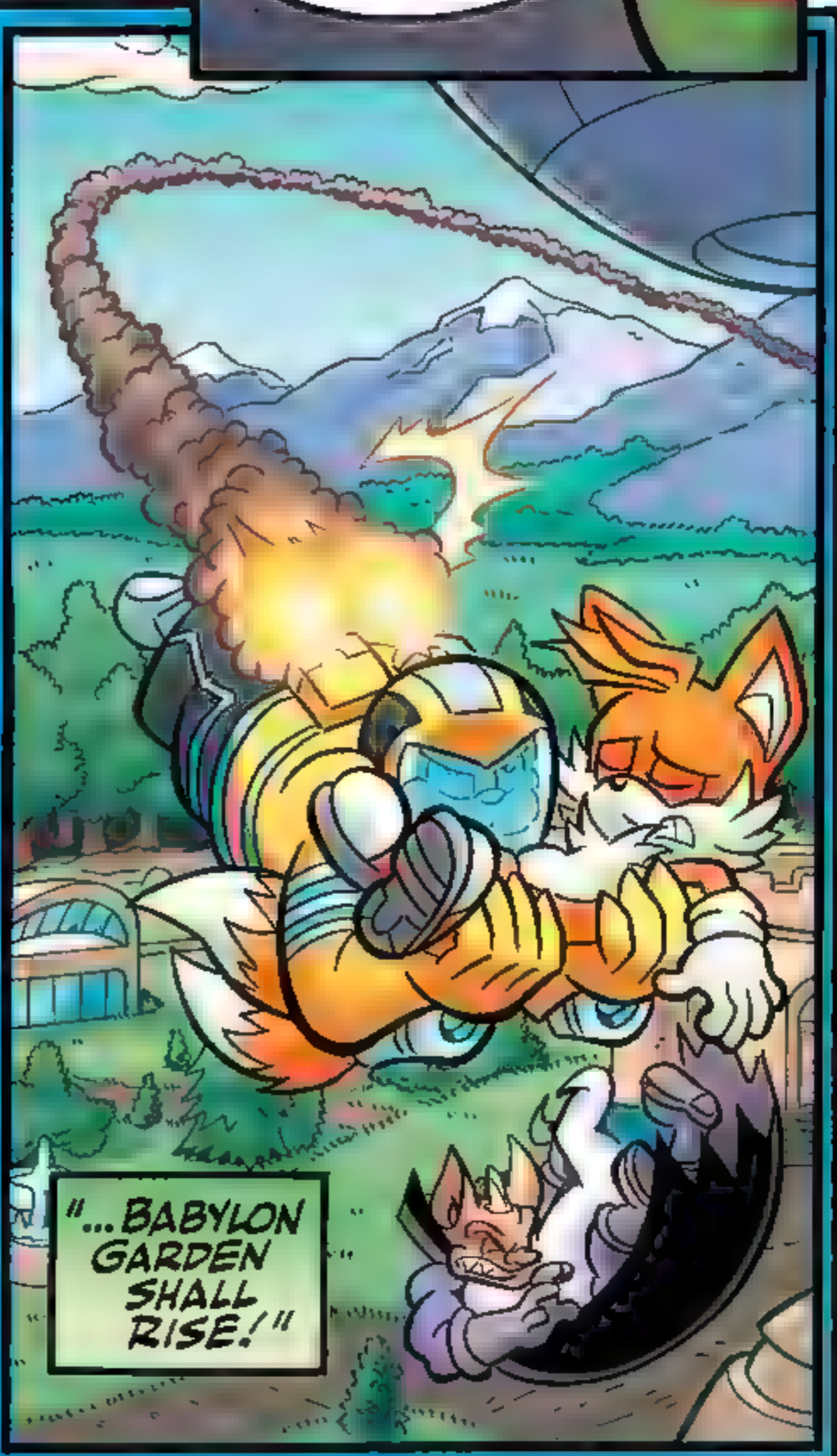


...BUT THE REAL PLEASURE IS ENDING YOU!

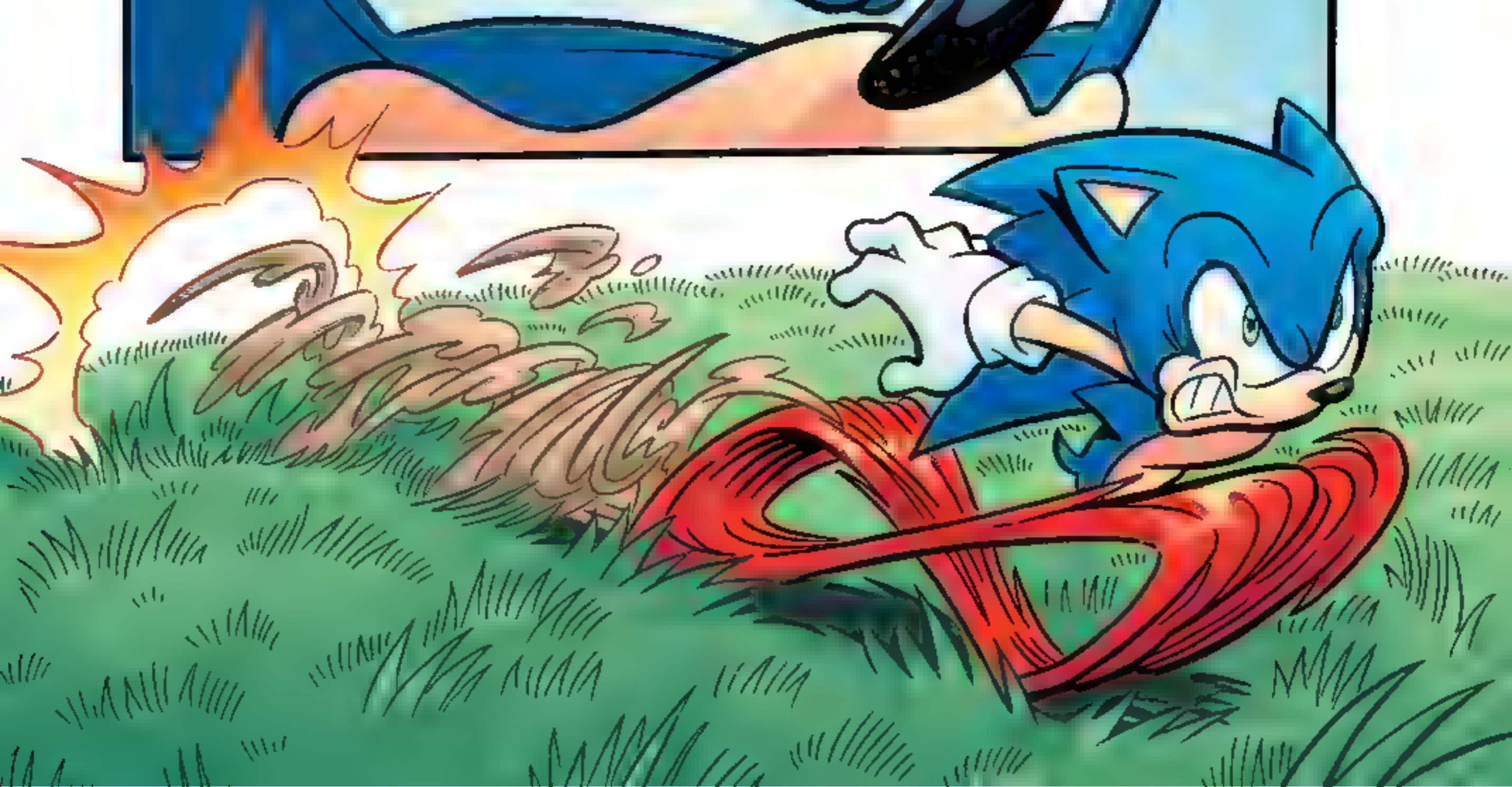
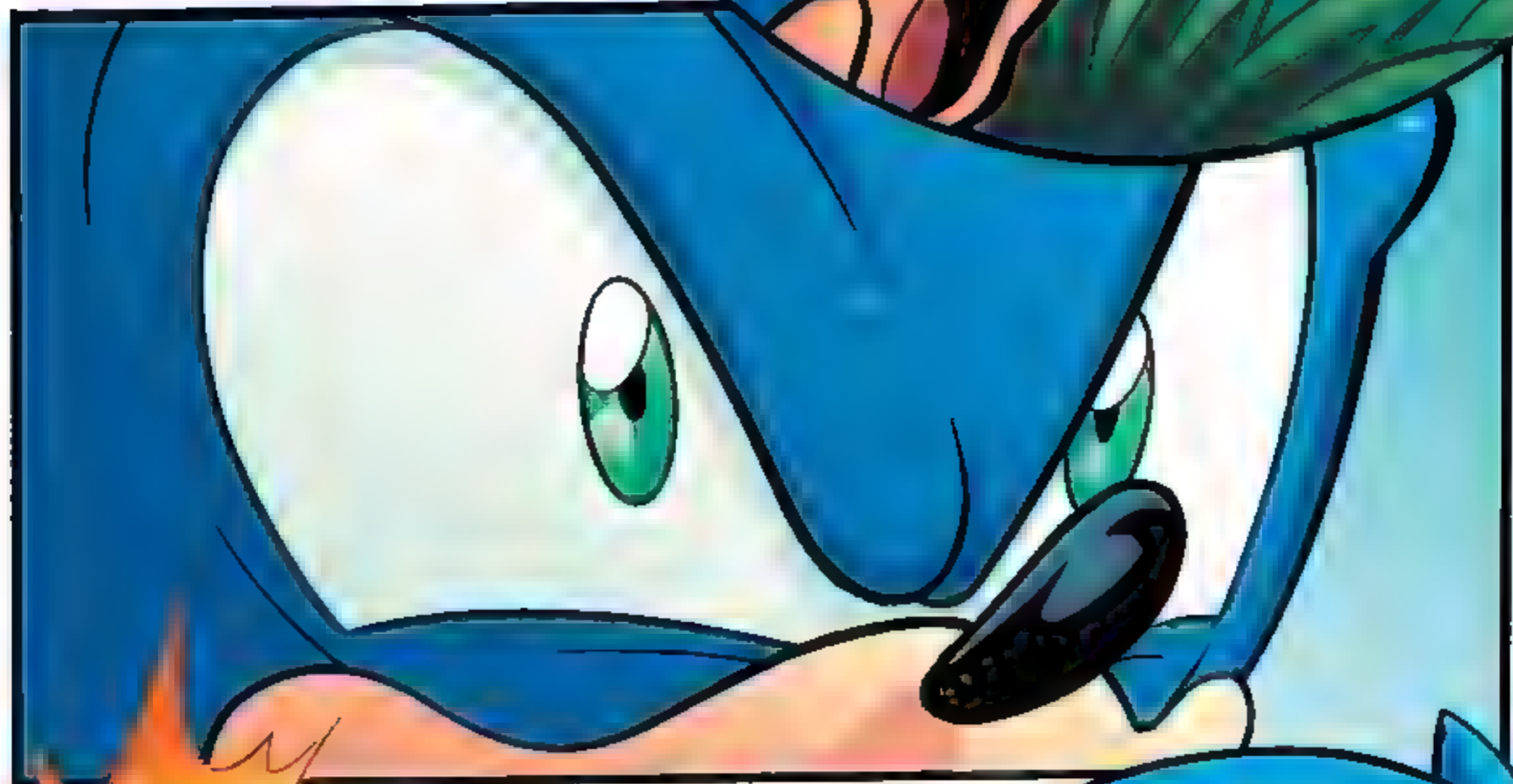
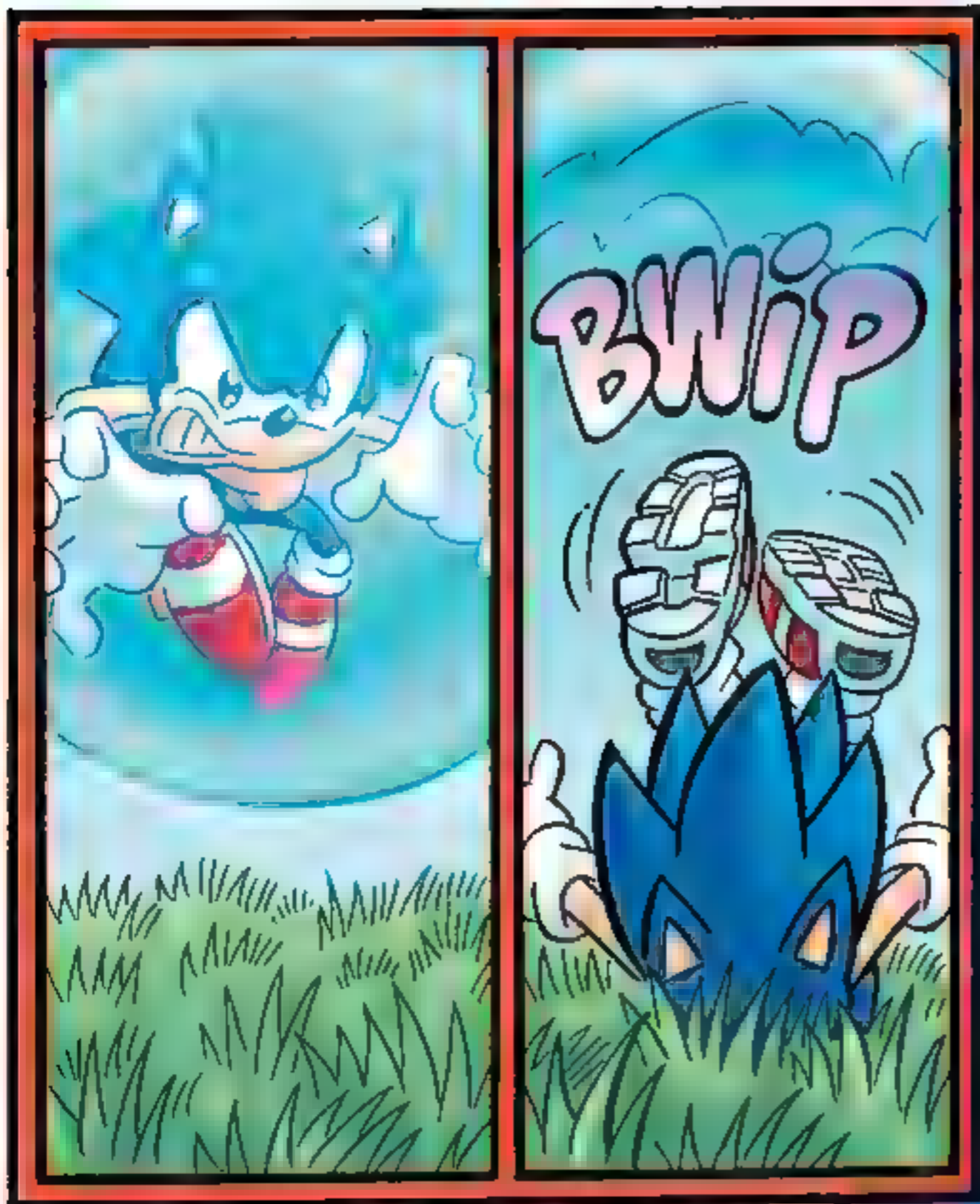
YOU DID WELL, MY SON. SAVOR THIS MOMENT.



"LIKE A PHOENIX FROM THE ASHES OF THIS WRETCHED CITY..."



"...BABYLON GARDEN SHALL RISE!"





CAN THIS *REALLY* BE HAPPENING?! CAN THE BATTLE BIRD ARMADA BE STOPPED?! WILL THEY UNEARTH THE *BABYLON GARDEN*, AND WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF THEY DO? FIND OUT IN THE NEXT EARTH-SHATTERING ISSUE OF **SONIC UNIVERSE!** KEEP UP WITH ALL THE EXCITEMENT IN THE PAGES OF **SONIC THE HEDGEHOG** AND THE **SONIC** GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY, AS WELL AS THE BRAND NEW **SONIC SUPER SPECIAL MAGAZINE** --
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OFF-PANEL

BABYLON RISING



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